



# On Symbolic Approaches for Computing the Matrix Permanent

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# Constrained Counting

“How many solutions does a set of constraints have?”

## Constraint Types:

- All-Different, Exact-One, Cardinality, Parity ...

## Applications of Counting:

- Counting-Based Branching Heuristics, Bayesian Inference, Verification, Computing Partition Functions, ...

# Counting-Based Branching Heuristics

- Context: Solving CSPs
- Problem: Picking a variable and value to branch on
- Counting-Based Approach [Pesant,'05][Zanarini & Pesant, '09][Quimper et al., '12]
  - Focus search on constraint with least solutions (Fail-First)
    - Ex: minSC
  - Pick variable and value which preserves most solutions
    - Ex: maxSD

# All-Different Constraint

Variables

$X_1$

$X_2$

$X_3$

$X_4$

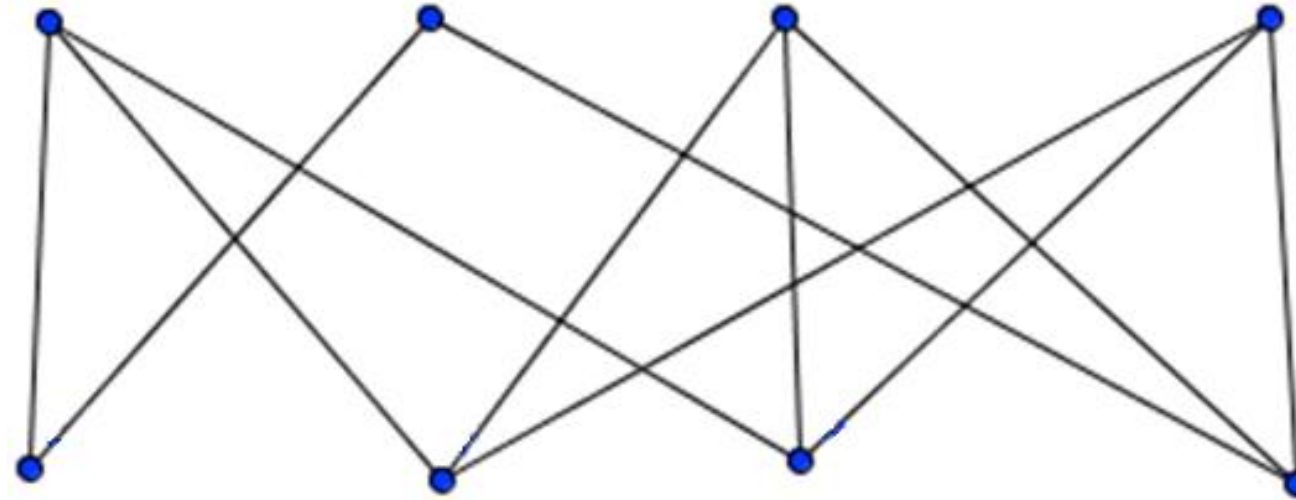
Union of  
Domains

1

2

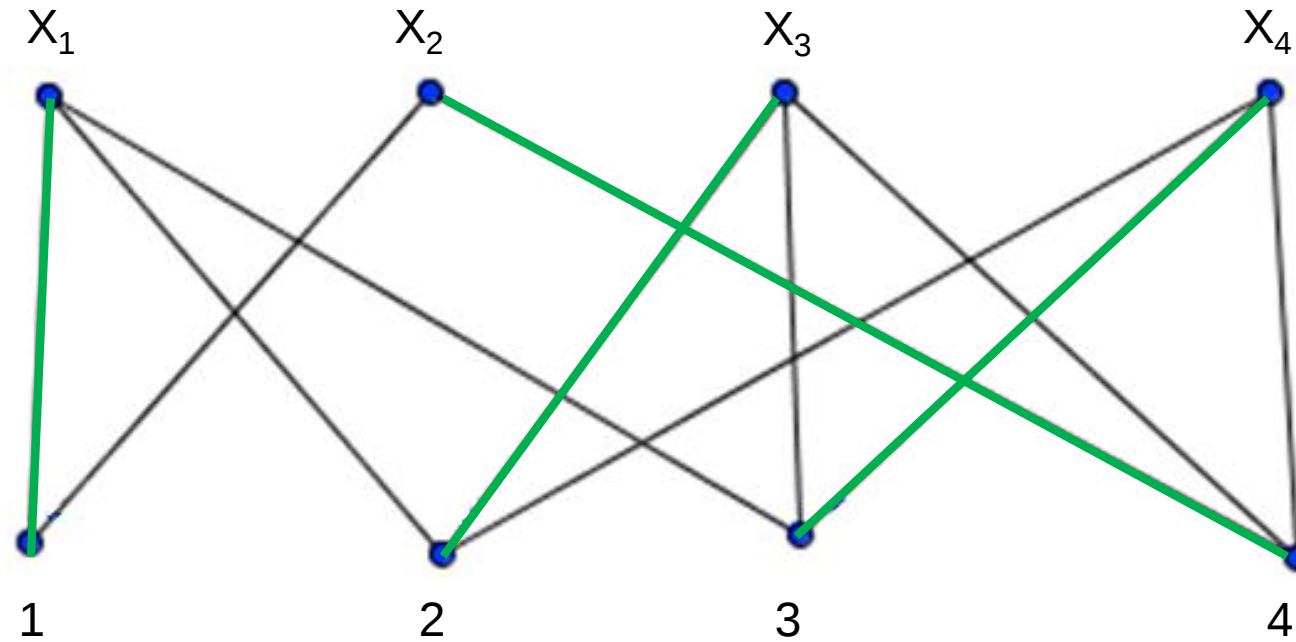
3

4



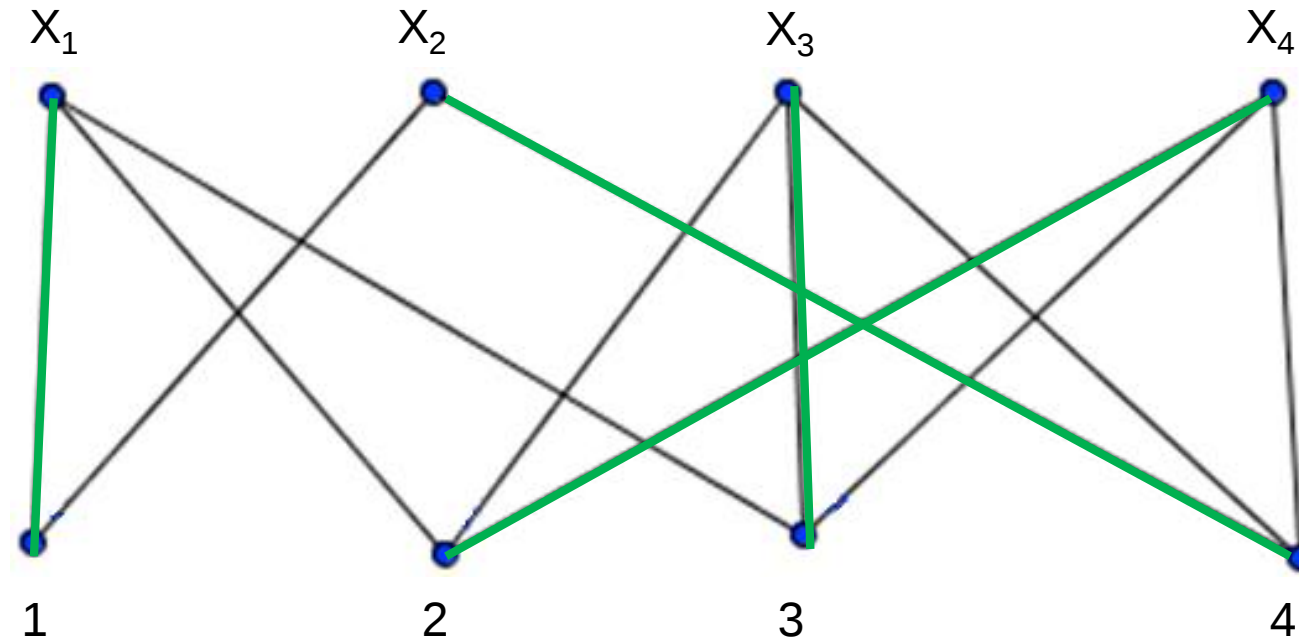
Task: Assign unique value to each variable

# All-Different Constraint



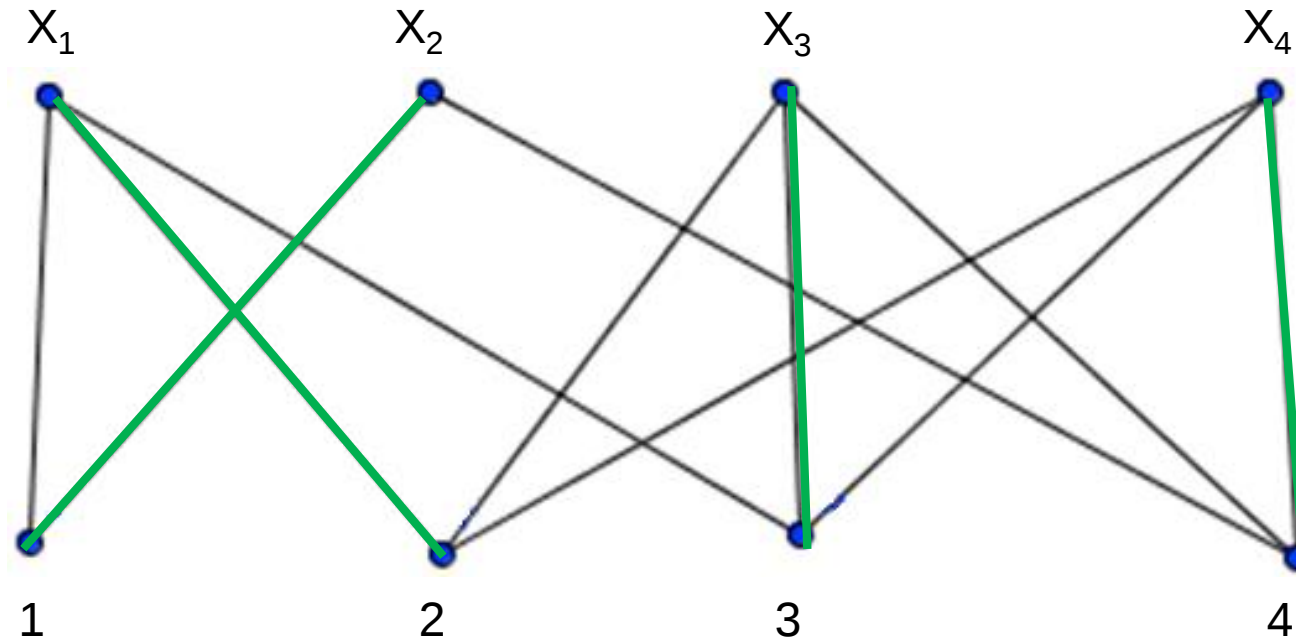
Solution: Bipartite Perfect Matchings!

# All-Different Constraint



#Solutions = #Bipartite Perfect Matchings!

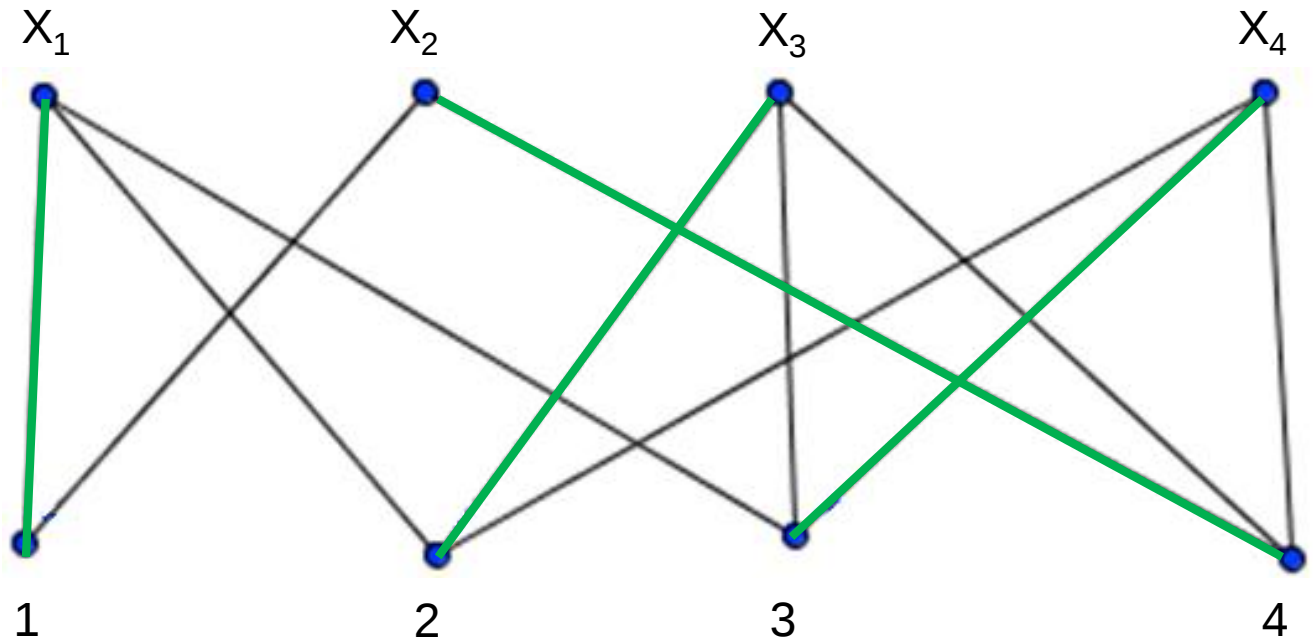
# All-Different Constraint



#Solutions = #Bipartite Perfect Matchings!

# Perfect Matchings and Matrix Permutations

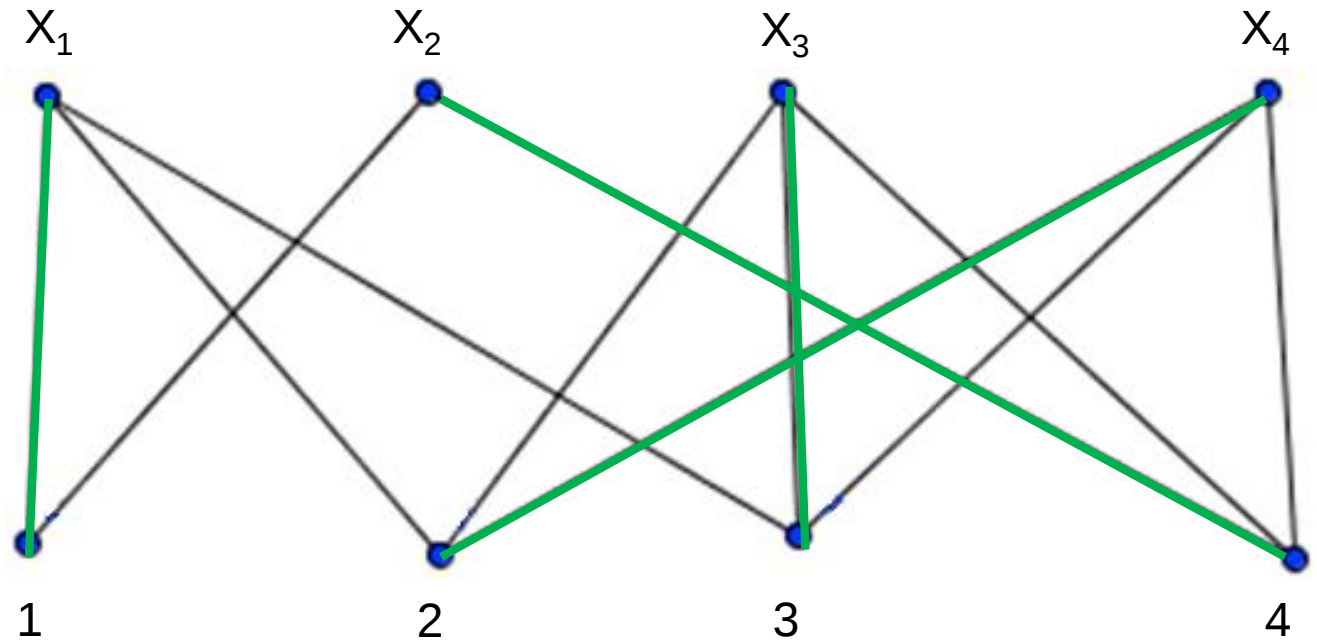
|       | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-------|---|---|---|---|
| $X_1$ | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| $X_2$ | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| $X_3$ | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| $X_4$ | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |



#Solutions = # 1-permutations

# Perfect Matchings and Matrix Permutations

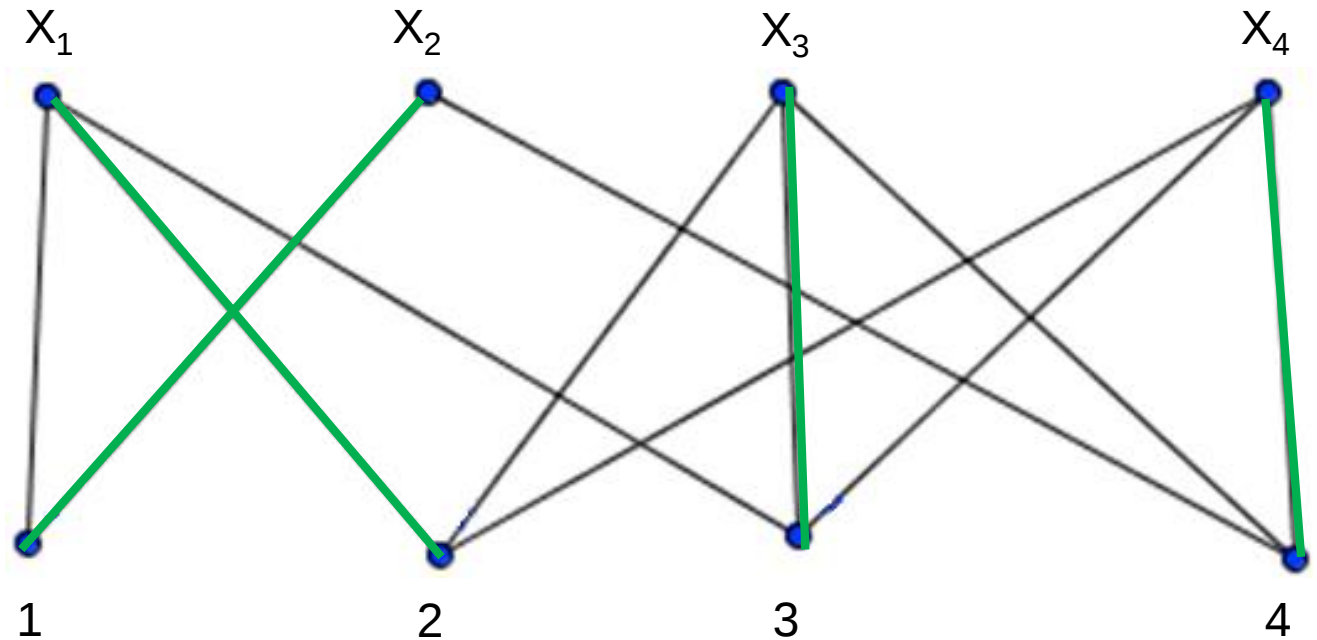
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#Solutions = # 1-permutations

# Permanent of a Matrix

- Given:  $n \times n$  matrix  $\mathbf{A} = (a_{i,j})$

$$\text{perm}(\mathbf{A}) = \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} \prod_{i=1}^n a_{i,\sigma_i}$$

- Ex:

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{vmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\text{perm}(\mathbf{A}) = aei + afh + bdi + bfg + cdh + ceg$$

# Determinant of a Matrix

- Given:  $n \times n$  matrix  $\mathbf{A} = (a_{i,j})$

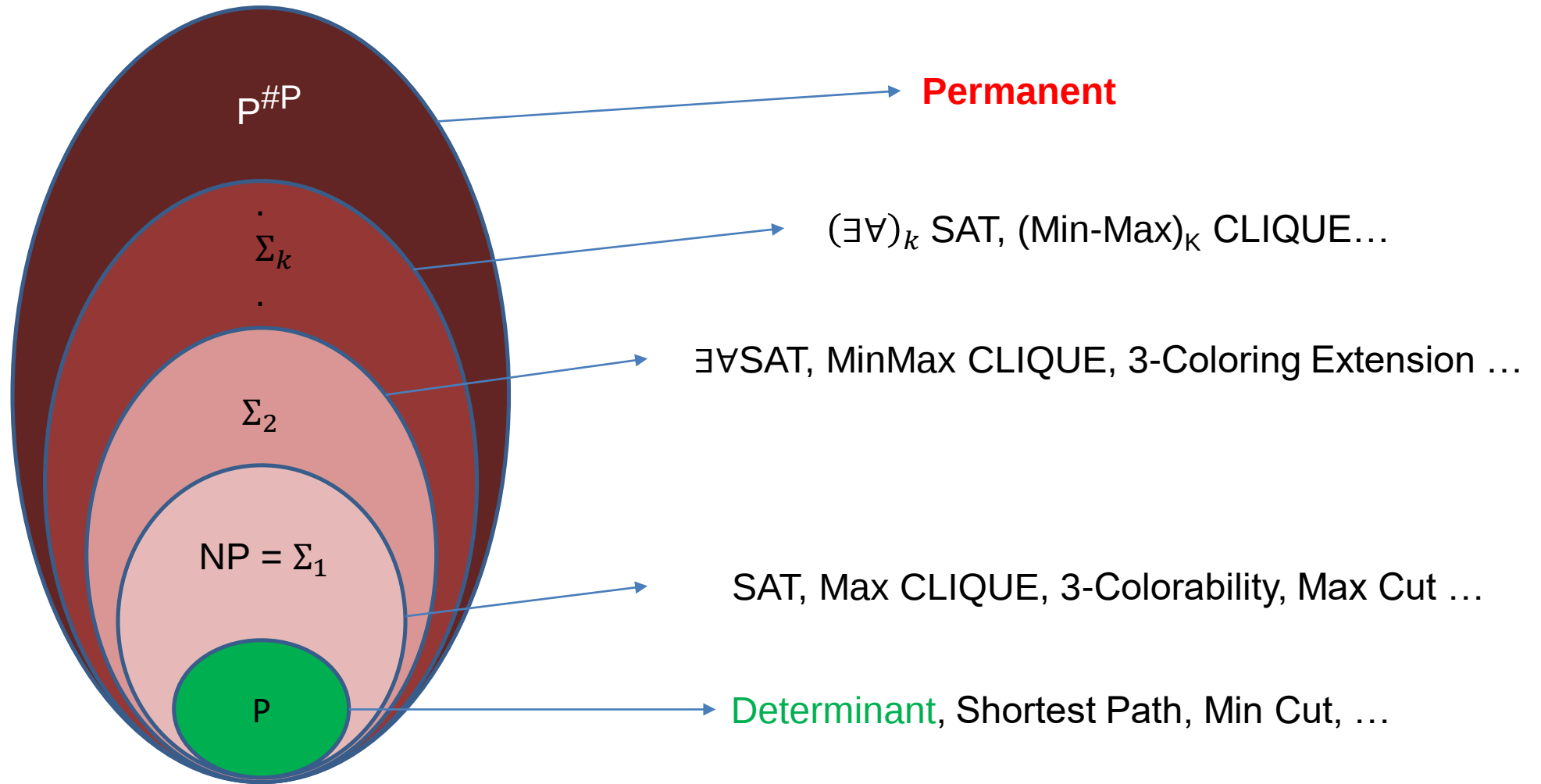
$$\det(\mathbf{A}) = \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} \text{sgn}(\sigma) \prod_{i=1}^n a_{i,\sigma_i}$$

- Ex:

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{vmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\det(\mathbf{A}) = aei - afh - bdi + bfg + cdh - ceg$$

# Hardness of Computing the Permanent



# Prior Work

- Theory

- Naïve Algorithm:  $O(n!)$
- Ryser's Formula:  $\Theta(n \cdot 2^n)$  [Ryser, '63][Nijenhuis & Wilf '78]
- Faster algorithms for special subclasses:
  - Sparse matrices [Izumi and Wadayama, '12][Cygan and Pilipczuk '15][Servedio & Wan, '05][Bjorklund and Williams, '19]
  - Bounded treewidth [Courcelle et al., '00]

- Practice

- Permanent of adjacency matrix of Fullerenes [Liang et al., '04, '06, '13, '15]
- Benchmarking Classical Computing [Bjorklund et al., '18]

# Contributions

- **RysersADD**: First algorithm to go beyond sparsity
  - Uses a symbolic approach
    - Algebraic Decision Diagrams [Bahar et al., '97] + Early Abstraction [Dudek et al., '18]
  - Works well on general class of matrices with “similar” rows
    - Includes both sparse and dense matrices as special cases
- Compelling empirical evidence of scalability
  - Dense Matrices: Vastly outperforms existing tools
  - Sparse matrices: Comparable to dedicated tools

# Ryser's Formula

$$\text{perm}(A) = (-1)^n \sum_{S \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, n\}} (-1)^{|S|} \prod_{i=1}^n \sum_{j \in S} a_{i,j}$$

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- For each row, compute sum of entries in each of those columns

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- Select a subset  $S$  of columns
- For each row, compute sum of entries in each of those columns
- Take product of the row-sums
- Add / Subtract from total depending on size of  $S$

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$$\text{perm}(A) = (-1)^n \sum_{S \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, n\}} (-1)^{|S|} \prod_{i=1}^n \sum_{j \in S} a_{i,j}$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\text{perm}(A) = (-1)^3 \cdot (\dots)$$

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$$\begin{vmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{vmatrix}$$

$$S = \{1\}$$

$$\text{perm}(A) = (-1)^3 \cdot (-adg + \dots)$$

# Ryser's Formula

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$$\begin{vmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{vmatrix}$$

$$S = \{2\}$$

$$\text{perm}(A) = (-1)^3 \cdot (-adg - beh + \dots)$$

# Ryser's Formula

$$\text{perm}(A) = (-1)^n \sum_{S \subseteq \{1,2,\dots,n\}} (-1)^{|S|} \prod_{i=1}^n \sum_{j \in S} a_{i,j}$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{vmatrix}$$

$$S = \{3\}$$

$$\text{perm}(A) = (-1)^3 \cdot (-adg - beh - cfi + \dots)$$

# Ryser's Formula

$$\text{perm}(A) = (-1)^n \sum_{S \subseteq \{1,2,\dots,n\}} (-1)^{|S|} \prod_{i=1}^n \sum_{j \in S} a_{i,j}$$

$$\left| \begin{array}{cc|c} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{array} \right|$$

$$S = \{1,2\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{perm}(A) \\ &= (-1)^3 \cdot (-adg - beh - cfi + (a + b) \cdot (d + e) \\ &\quad \cdot (g + h) + \dots) \end{aligned}$$

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$$\text{perm}(A) = (-1)^n \sum_{S \subseteq \{1,2,\dots,n\}} (-1)^{|S|} \prod_{i=1}^n \sum_{j \in S} a_{i,j}$$

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| a | b | c |
| d | e | f |
| g | h | i |

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$$\left| \begin{array}{c} a \\ d \\ g \end{array} \begin{array}{cc} b & c \\ e & f \\ h & i \end{array} \right|$$

$$S = \{2,3\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{perm}(A) &= (-1)^3 \cdot (-adg - beh - cfi + (a+b) \cdot (d+e) \\ &\quad \cdot (g+h) + (a+c) \cdot (d+f) \cdot (g+i) + (b+c) \\ &\quad \cdot (e+f) \cdot (h+i) \dots) \end{aligned}$$

# Ryser's Formula

$$\text{perm}(A) = (-1)^n \sum_{S \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, n\}} (-1)^{|S|} \prod_{i=1}^n \sum_{j \in S} a_{i,j}$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{vmatrix} \quad \text{perm}(A) \\ = (-1)^3 \cdot (-adg - beh - cfi + (a+b) \cdot (d+e) \\ \cdot (g+h) + (a+c) \cdot (d+f) \cdot (g+i) + (b+c) \\ \cdot (e+f) \cdot (h+i) - (a+b+c) \cdot (d+e+f) \\ \cdot (g+h+i))$$

# A Dynamic Programming Approach

- Memoize intermediate row-sums
  - Ex: Row-sums for  $S=\{1,2\}$  can be reused when  $S=\{1,2,3\}$
  - Need to store  $2^{|S|}$  row-sums in worst case

# A Dynamic Programming Approach

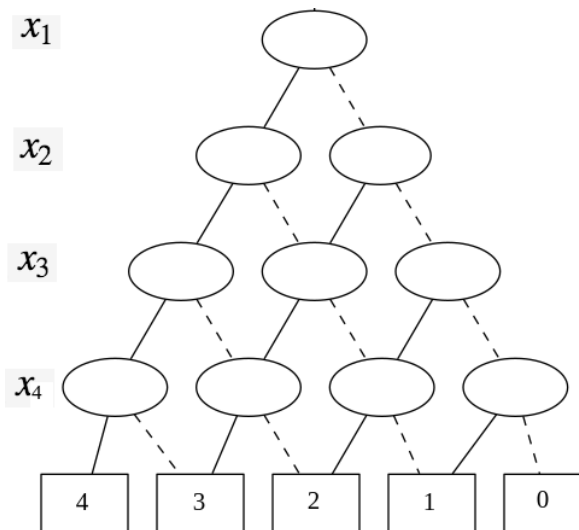
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- Can we do better for special matrix classes?

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  - Need to store  $2^{|S|}$  row-sums in worst case
- Can we do better for special matrix classes?
  - Ideal Case: Identical Rows
    - Row-sums are identical for all  $S$
  - In practice: Similar rows offer good compression

# Algebraic Decision Diagrams

- Data Structures for compact representation of Real-valued Boolean functions  $f: \{0,1\}^n \rightarrow R$ 
  - DAGs with fixed variable order and node-sharing
  - Operations: Sum, Product, Additive Quantification ( $\exists$ ), ITE
- Ex:  $f = x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4$



# Representing Ryser's Formula

$$\text{perm}(A) = (-1)^n \sum_{S \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, n\}} (-1)^{|S|} \prod_{i=1}^n \sum_{j \in S} a_{i,j}$$

- Boolean variable  $x_j$  for each column  $j$

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- $f_{RSP} = \prod_{i=1}^n f_{RS}^i$
- $f_{Parity} = (-1)^{|S|}$
- $f_{Ryser} = f_{Parity} \cdot f_{RSP}$

# Representing Ryser's Formula

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- $f_{Parity} = (-1)^{|S|}$
- $f_{Ryser} = f_{Parity} \cdot f_{RSP}$
- $\text{perm}(A) = (-1)^n \cdot \exists x_1, x_2 \dots x_n f_{Ryser}$

# Representing Rysers Formula

- Ex:  $4 \times 4$  matrix of all 1s

- Observations:

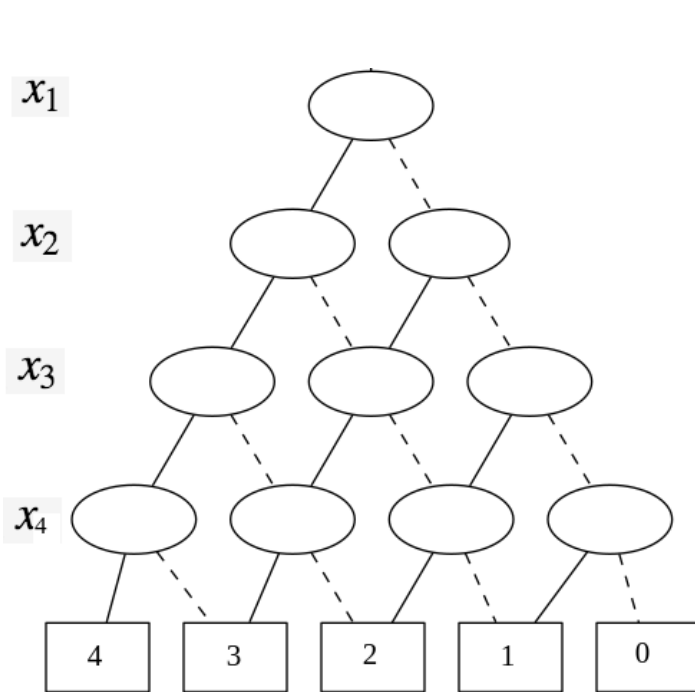
- $f_{RS}^j = x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4$  for all  $j$

- $f_{RSP} = \left(f_{RS}^j\right)^4$

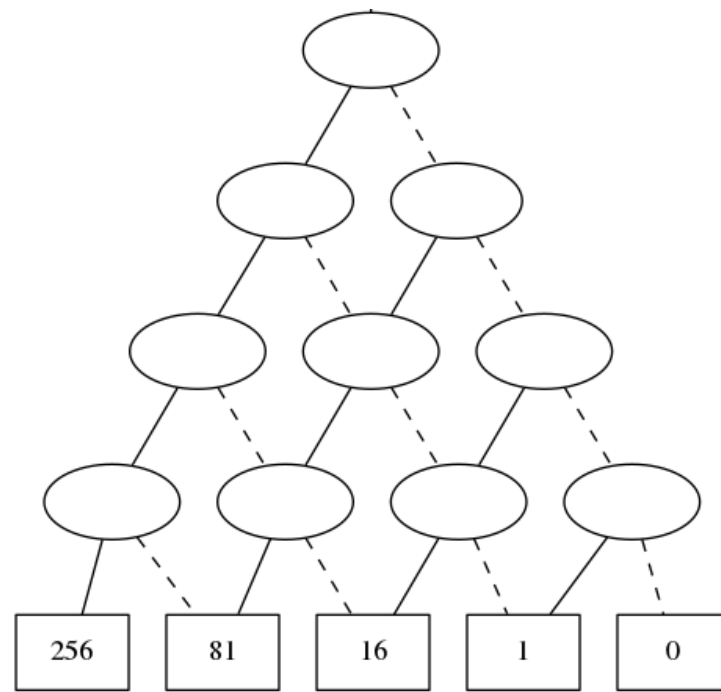
|  | $x_1$ | $x_2$ | $x_3$ | $x_4$ |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|  | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1     |
|  | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1     |
|  | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1     |
|  | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1     |

# Representing Ryser's Formula

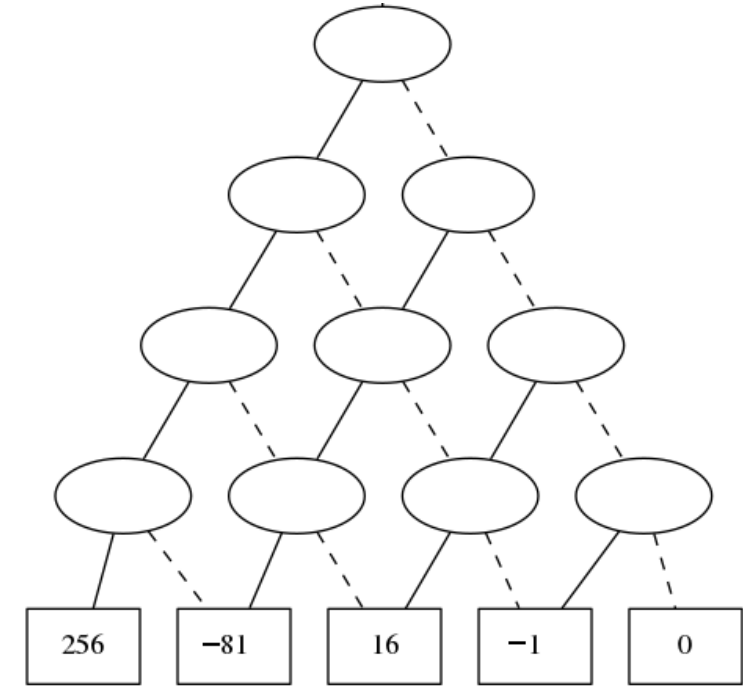
- Ex:  $4 \times 4$  matrix of all 1s



Row-Sum



Row-Sum Product



Rysers

# Early Abstraction

$$\text{perm}(A) = (-1)^n \cdot \exists x_1, \dots, x_n f_{Rysers}$$

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$$\text{perm}(A) = (-1)^n \cdot \exists x_1, \dots, x_n f_{\text{Parity}} \cdot \prod_{i=1}^n f_{RS}^i$$

- Push existential quantifiers inside the product
  - Not all  $x_i$ s appear in each  $f_{RS}$
- Keeps size of ADD small
- Many variable ordering heuristics in literature

# Early Abstraction

$$\text{perm}(A) = (-1)^n \cdot (\exists x_j f_{RS}^{i_4} \dots \left( \exists x_k f_{RS}^{i_3} \cdot \left( \exists x_1, x_5, x_6 f_{\text{Parity}} \cdot f_{RS}^{i_1} \cdot f_{RS}^{i_2} \right) \right)))$$

- Push existential quantifiers inside the product
  - Not all  $x_i$ s appear in each  $f_{RS}$
- Keeps size of ADD small
- Many variable ordering heuristics in literature

# Implementation

- Sylvan library [van Dijk,'15] implements ADDs with arbitrary precision arithmetic
- Natively supports parallelization
- Our tool is called *RysersADD*
  - *RysersADD-P* with no additional effort

# Experimental Setup

- Algorithm Suite
  - RyserADD, RyserADD-P (12 cores)
  - Model Counters: D4, DSharp
    - Encode Perfect-Matching (ExactOne Constraints) into CNF
    - 6 encodings: Pairwise, Sequential, Bitwise, Ladder, M/I Totalizer
  - Other: Explicit Ryser's Algorithm, CountAtom, ADDMC, C2D, B+E

# Experimental Setup

- Benchmarks
  - Random: **Dense**
    - Start with a matrix of identical rows

|   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

# Experimental Setup

- Benchmarks
  - Random: **Dense**
    - Start with a matrix of identical rows
    - Flip  $C_f \cdot n$  entries uniformly at random

|   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |

# Experimental Setup

- Benchmarks
  - Random: **Sparse**
    - Start with a matrix of identical rows

|   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

# Experimental Setup

- Benchmarks
  - Random: **Sparse**
    - Start with a matrix of identical rows
    - Flip  $C_f \cdot n$  entries uniformly at random

|   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |

# Experimental Setup

- Benchmarks
  - Random: **Other Similar Rows**
    - Start with a matrix of identical rows

|   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |

# Experimental Setup

- Benchmarks
  - Random: **Other Similar Rows**
    - Start with a matrix of identical rows
    - Flip  $C_f \cdot n$  entries uniformly at random

|   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |

# Experimental Setup

- Benchmarks
  - Random: **Dense**, Sparse, Other Similar rows
    - Start with a matrix of identical rows
    - Flip  $C_f \cdot n$  entries uniformly at random

Table 1: Parameters used for generating random matrices

| Experiment | Matrix Size<br>$n$ | $C_f$ , where $C_f \cdot n$ matrix entries flipped | Starting Matrix<br>Row Density $\rho$ | #Instances | Total<br>Benchmarks |
|------------|--------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------|---------------------|
| Dense      | 30, 40, 50, 60, 70 | 1, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4                              | 1                                     | 20         | 500                 |
| Sparse     | 30, 40, 50, 60, 70 | 3.9, 4.3, 4.7, 5.1, 5.5                            | 0                                     | 20         | 500                 |
| Similar    | 40, 50, 60, 70, 80 | 1, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4                              | 0.7, 0.8, 0.9                         | 15         | 1125                |

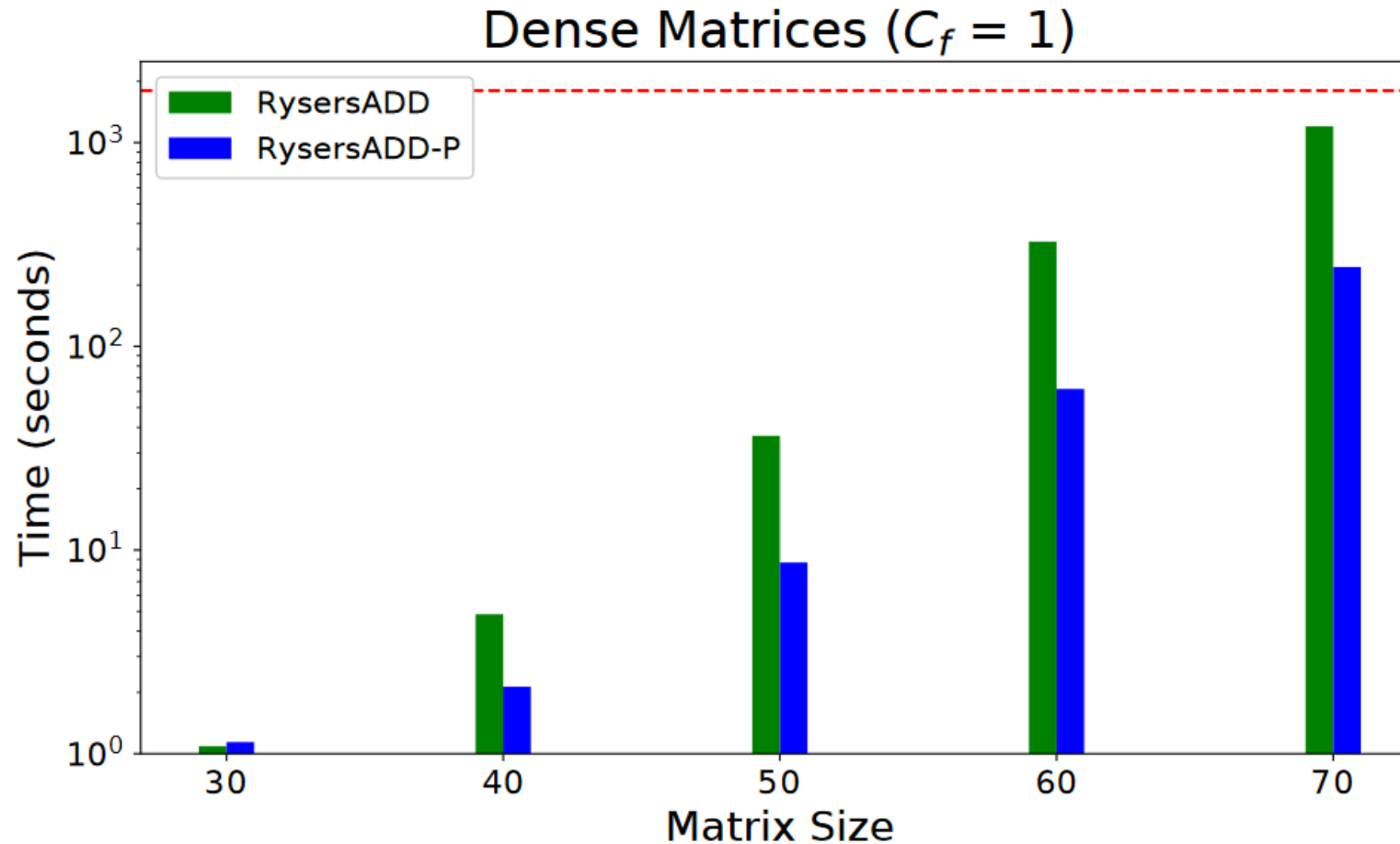
# Experimental Setup

- Benchmarks
  - Random: **Dense**, Sparse, **Other Similar rows**
  - **SuiteSparse Matrix Collection**
  - Fullernes  $C_{60}$ ,  $C_{100}$

# Observations

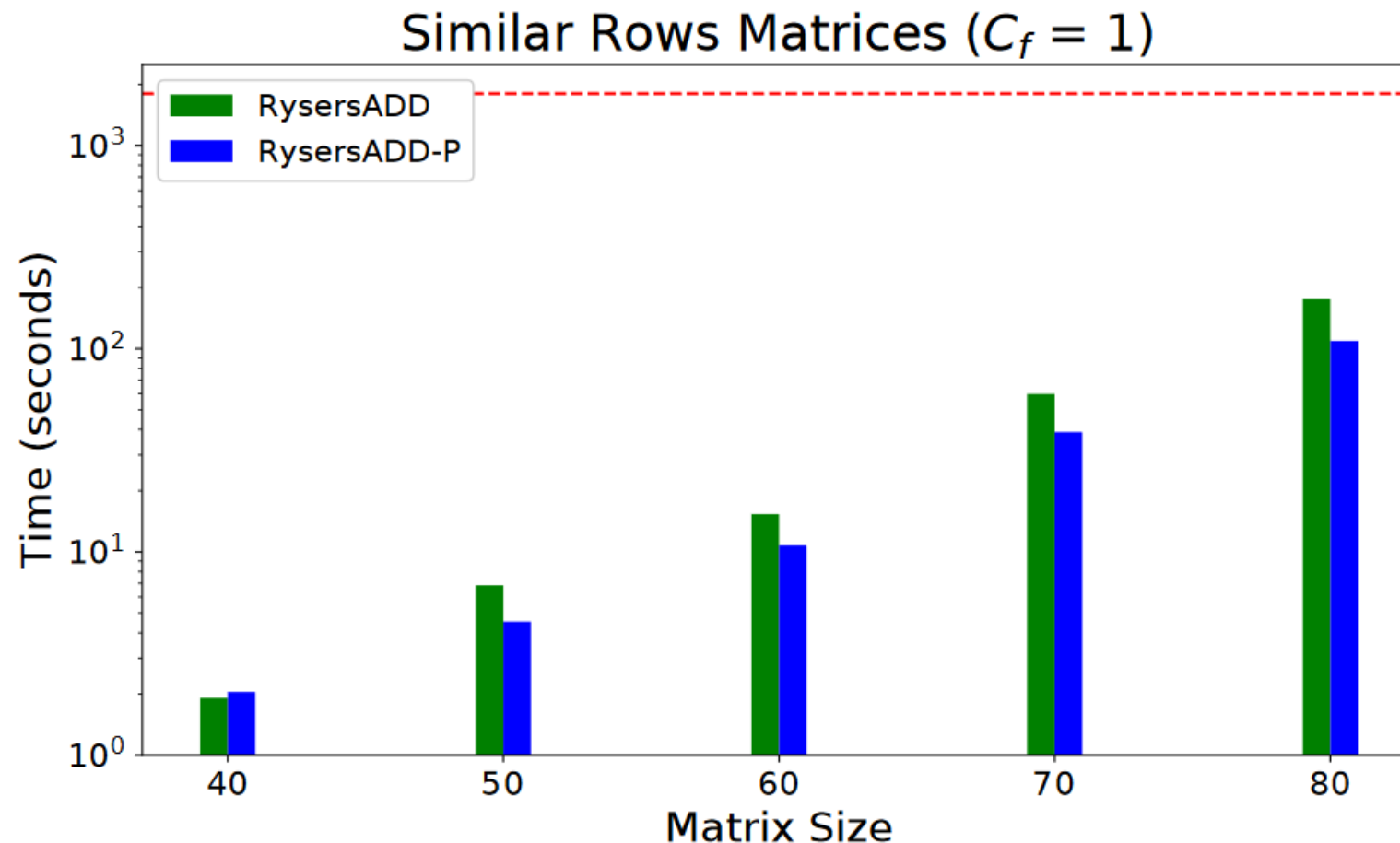
- ADD-based methods vastly outperform other approaches for non-sparse matrices
- D4 is the best performer for sparse matrices
  - Performance of RydersADD gets better as sparsity decreases

# Results: Dense Matrices



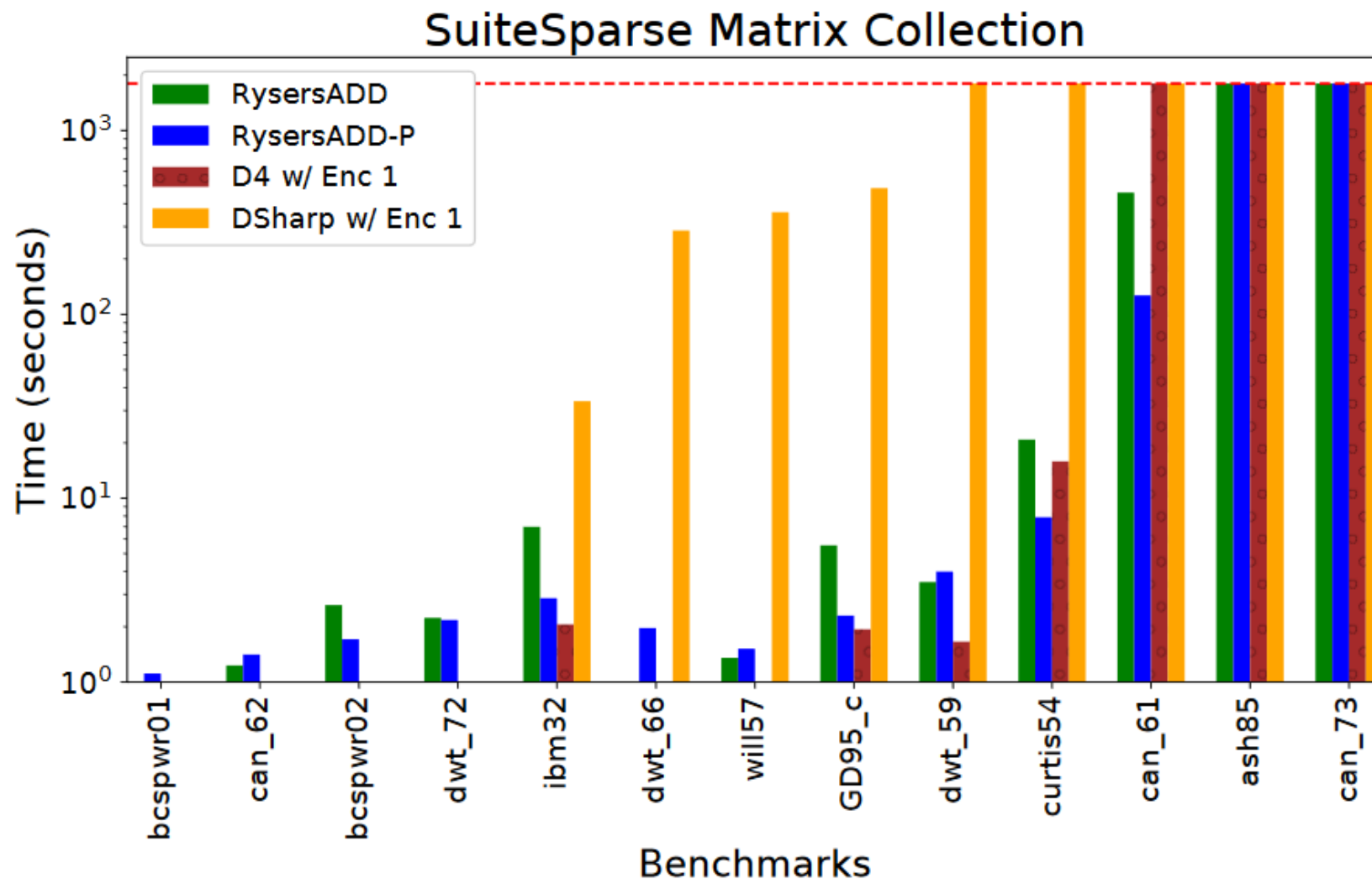
D4, Dsharp (not shown) timeout on all instances

# Results: Other “Similar-Rows” Matrices



D4, Dsharp (not shown) timeout on all instances

# Results: SuiteSparse Collection

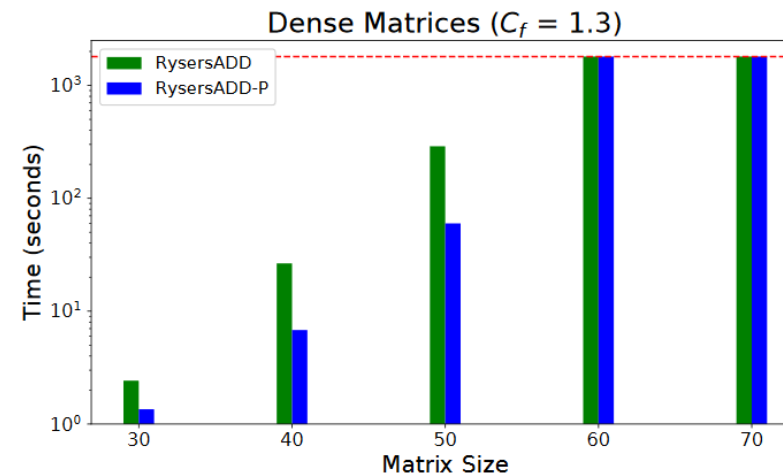
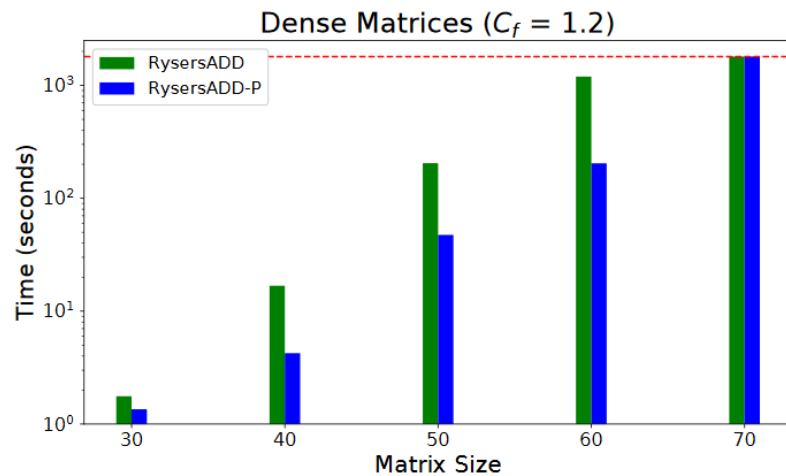
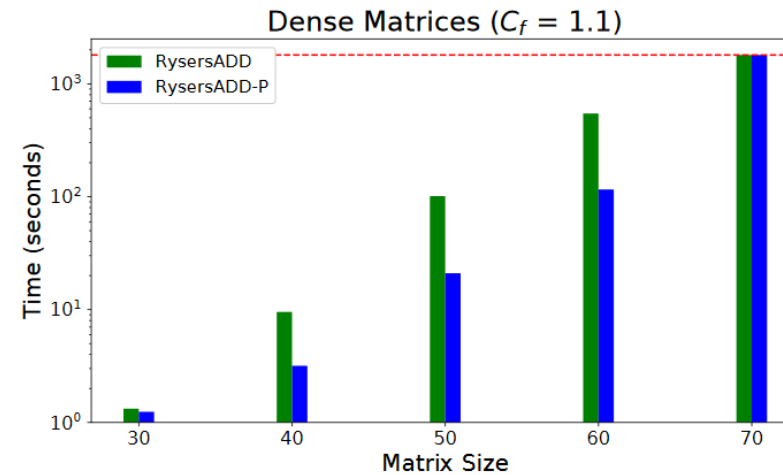
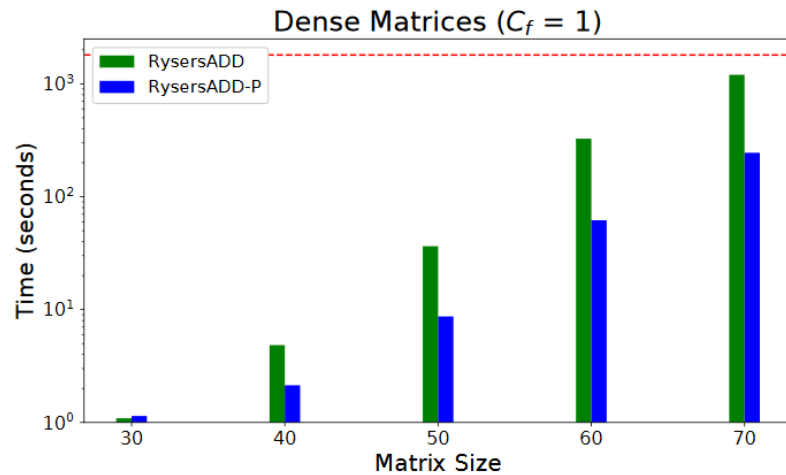


# Takeaways

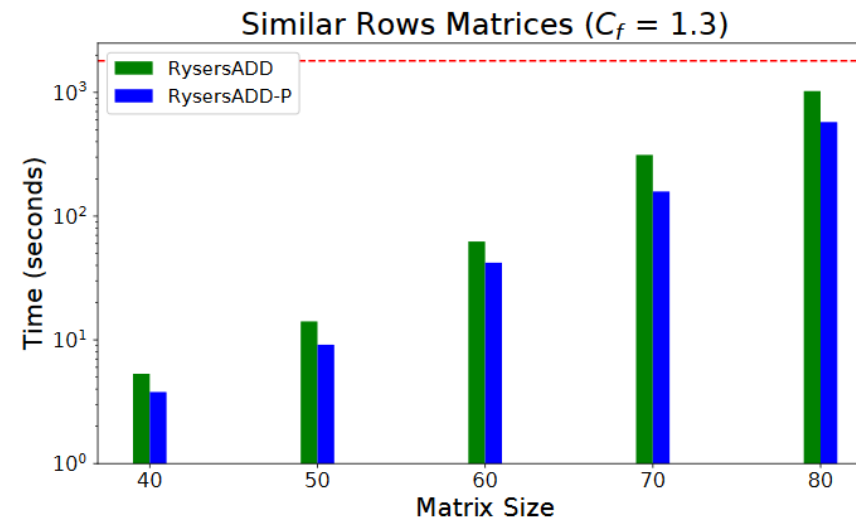
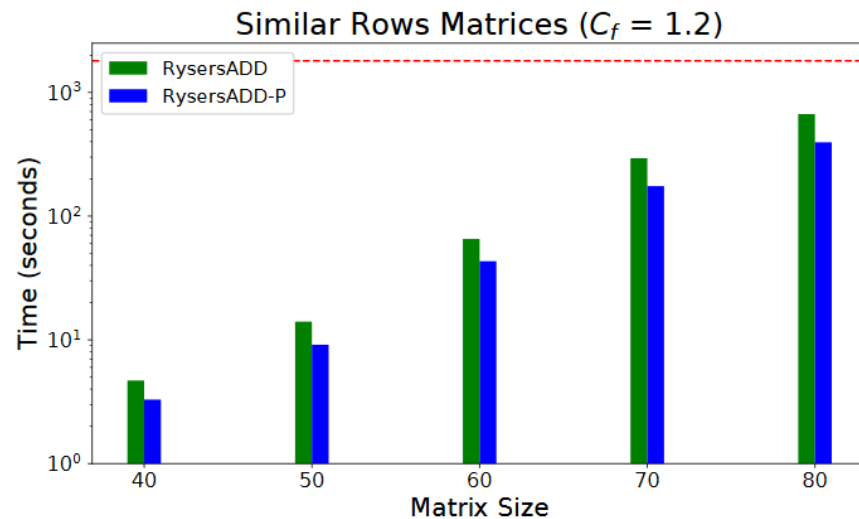
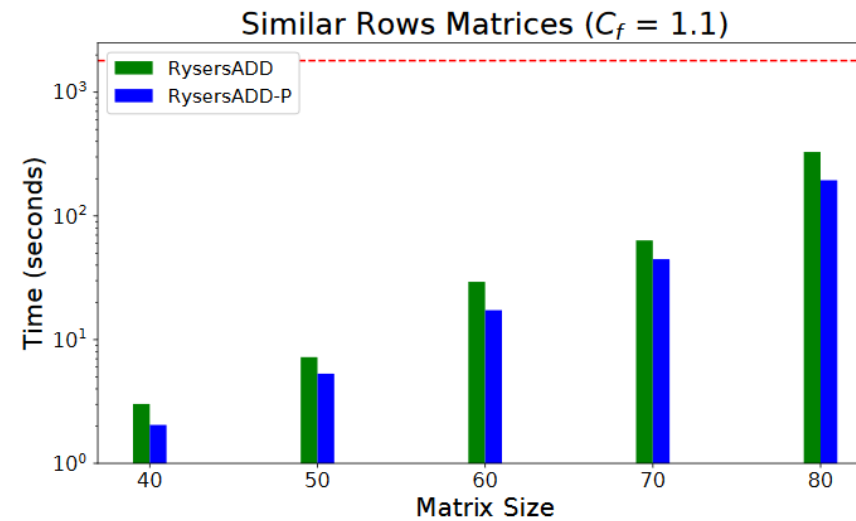
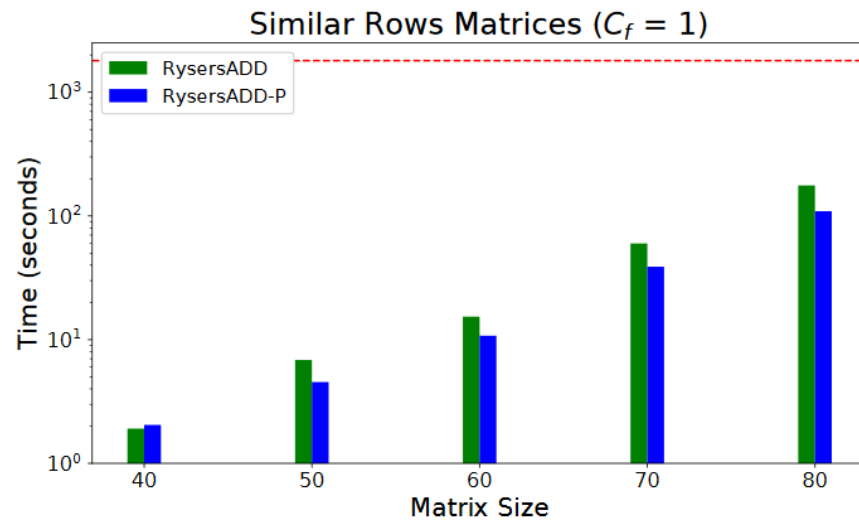
- Symbolic approaches show promise
  - More applications of ADDs?
- Define a new tractable subclass of matrices?
- Better bounds for dense matrices?
- Open Question: Exponentially faster algorithm than Ryser's?

# Backup

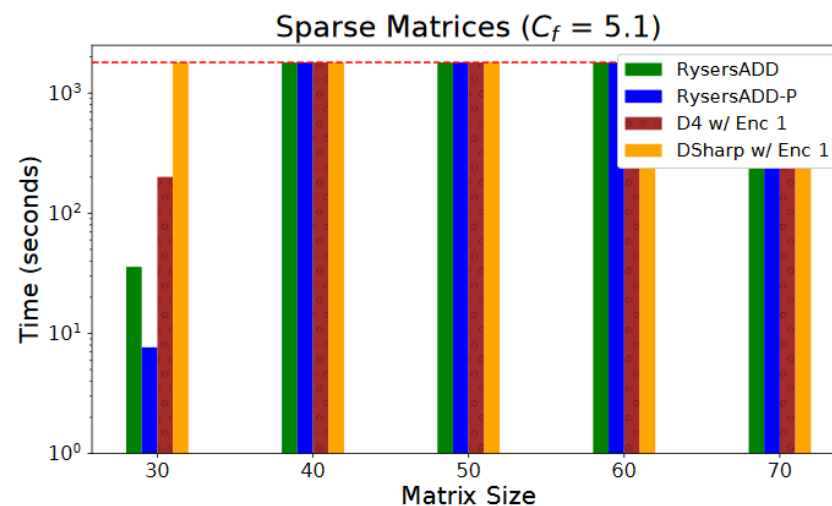
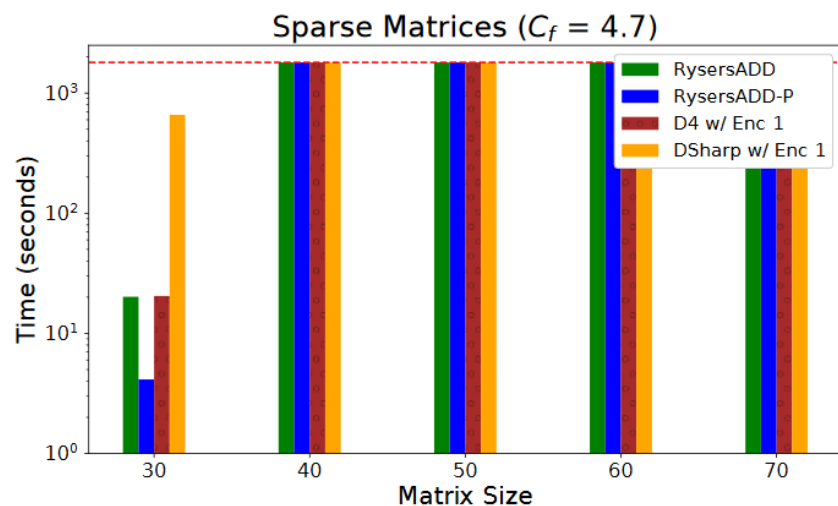
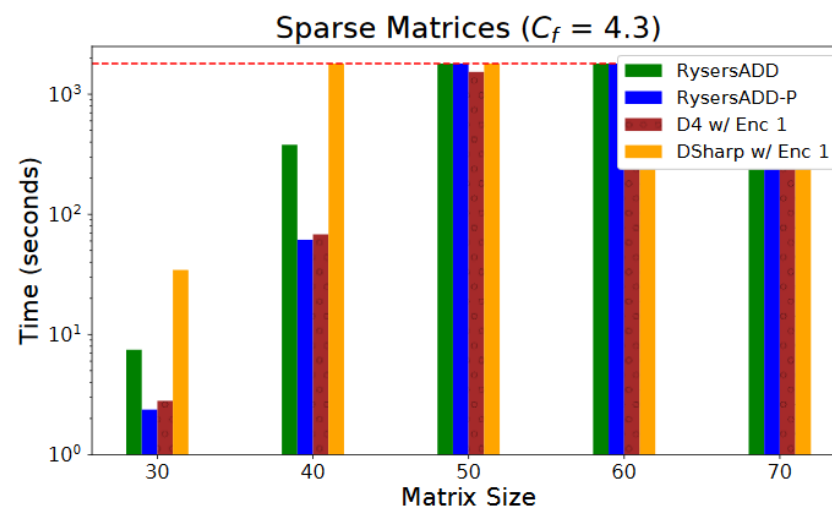
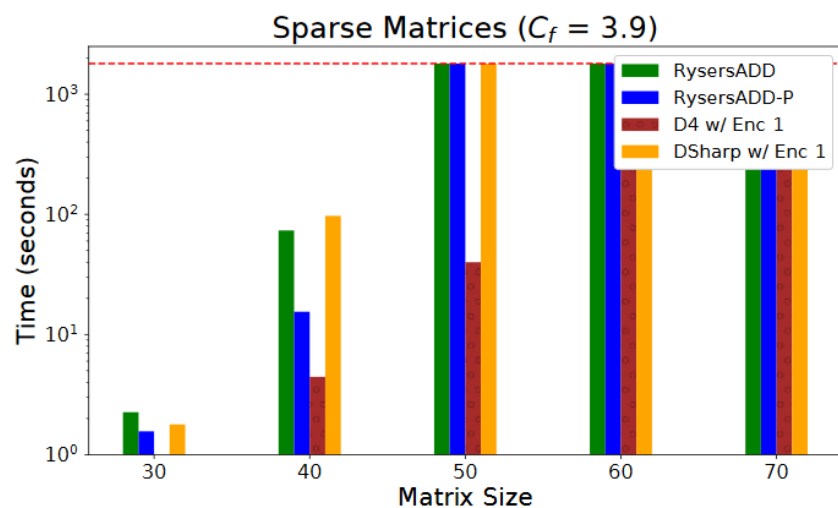
# Results: Dense Matrices



# Results: Other Similar Rows Matrices



# Results: Sparse Matrices

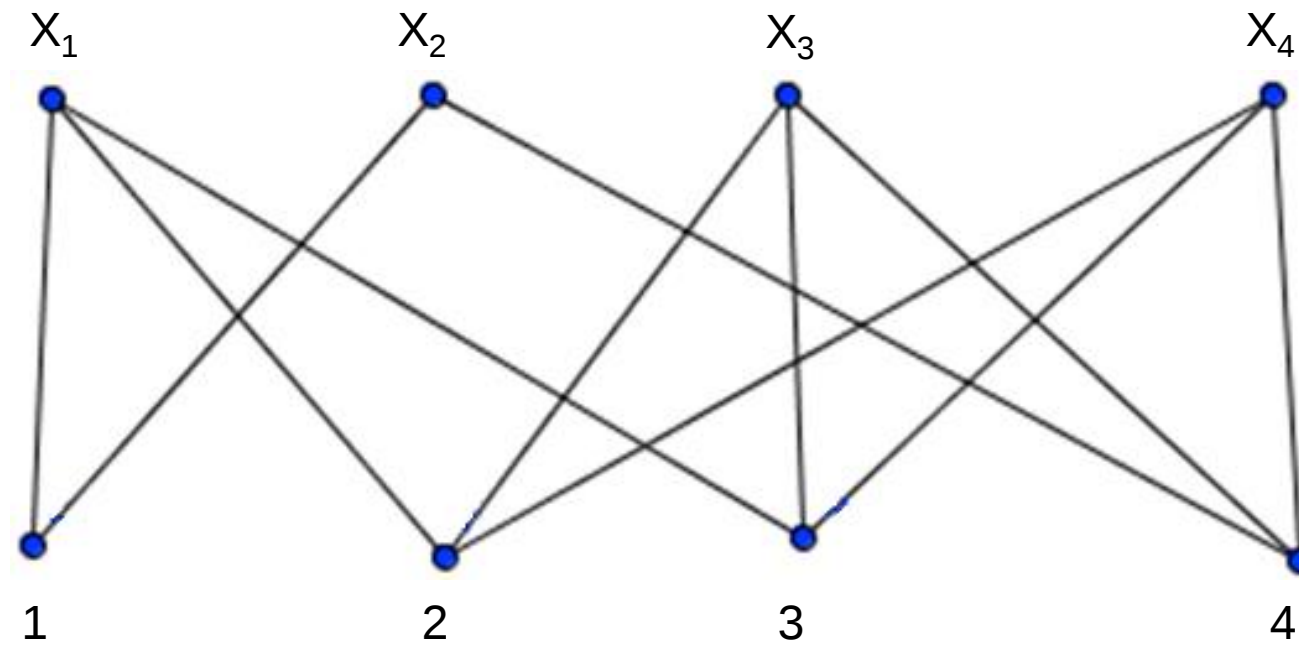


# Results: Adjacency Matrices of Fullerenes

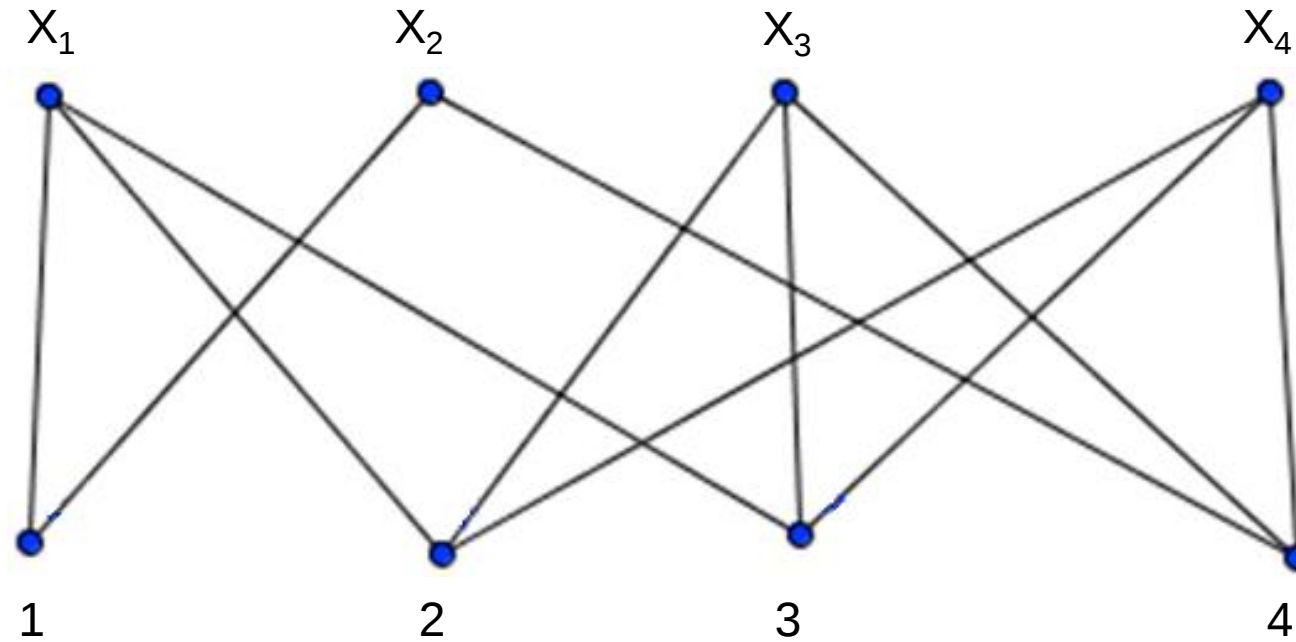
- $C_{60}$ 
  - D4: 94 sec
  - RyersADD: 96 sec
  - RyersADD-P: 57 sec
  - [Liang et al., '04]\*: 355 sec
  - [Liang et al., '13]\*: 5 sec
- $C_{100}$ 
  - D4, RyersADD, RyersADD-P: Timeout
  - [Liang et al., '13]\*: 836 sec

\*Not on same compute platform

# All-Different Constraint



# All-Different Constraint

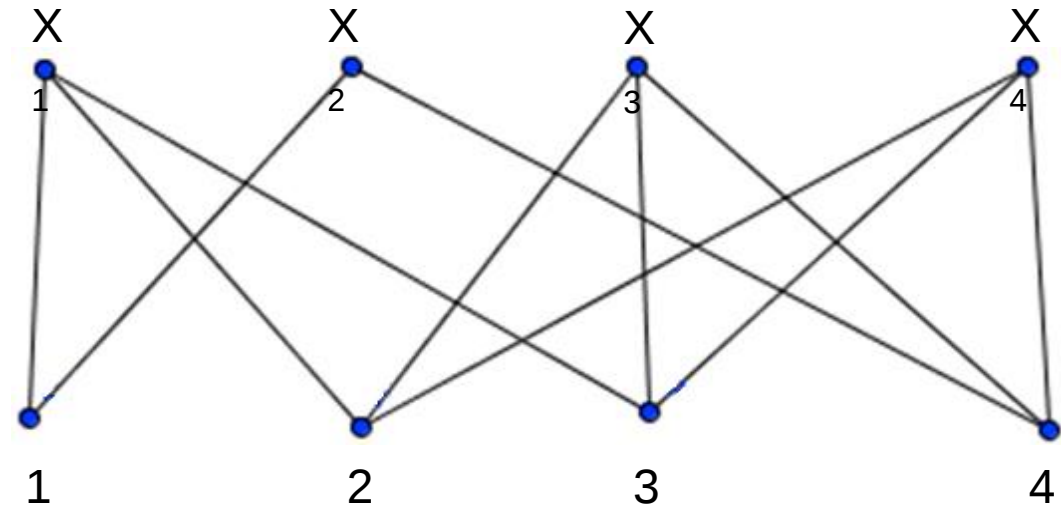


Number of valid assignments?

# 0/1 Permanent and Bipartite Perfect Matchings

- Sufficient to consider 0/1 matrices
- Can be interpreted as a bi-adjacency matrix
- Each 1-permutation is a perfect matching

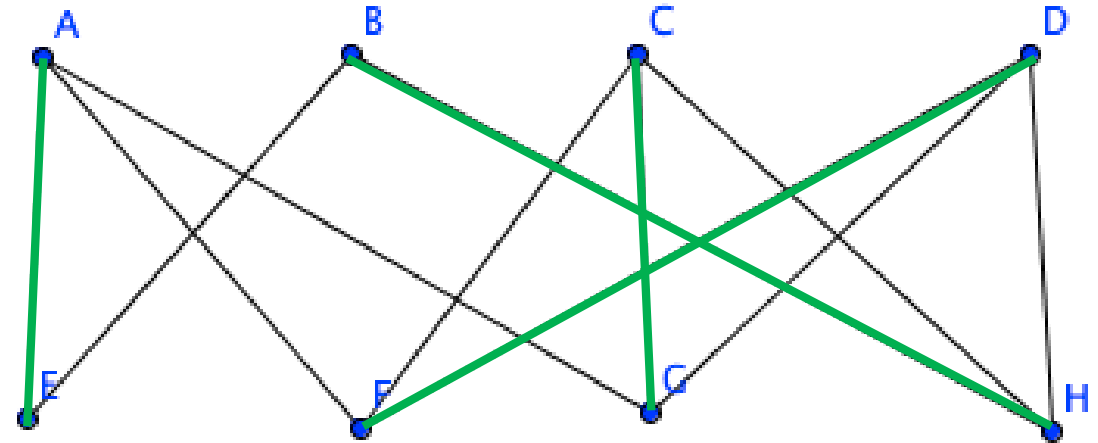
|   | E | F | G | H |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| B | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| C | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| D | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |



# 0/1 Permanent and Bipartite Perfect Matchings

- Sufficient to consider 0/1 matrices
- Can be interpreted as a bi-adjacency matrix
- Each 1-permutation is a perfect matching

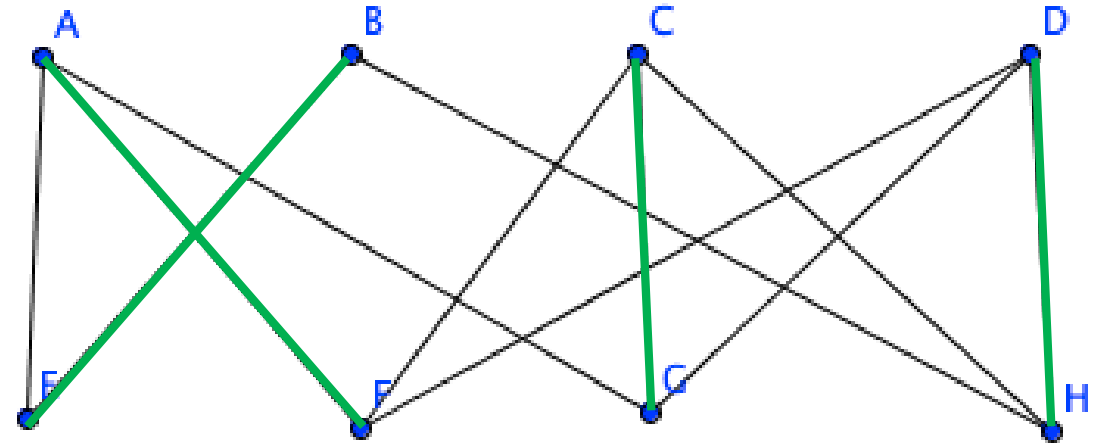
|   | E | F | G | H |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| B | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| C | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| D | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |



# 0/1 Permanent and Bipartite Perfect Matchings

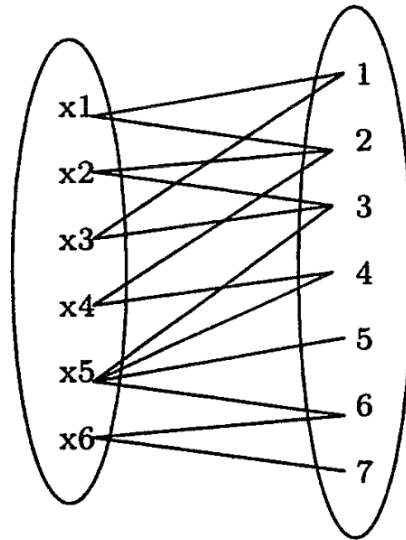
- Sufficient to consider 0/1 matrices
- Can be interpreted as a bi-adjacency matrix
- Each 1-permutation is a perfect matching

|   | E | F | G | H |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| B | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| C | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| D | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |



# Applications

- Chemistry: Stability of Fullerenes
- Solving CSPs: Counting-Based Heuristics for AllDifferent Constraint [Pesant et al., '12]



- Quantum Computing: To see how far classical computation can be pushed [Bjorklund et al., '18]