



# From Closing Triangles to Closing Higher-Order Motifs

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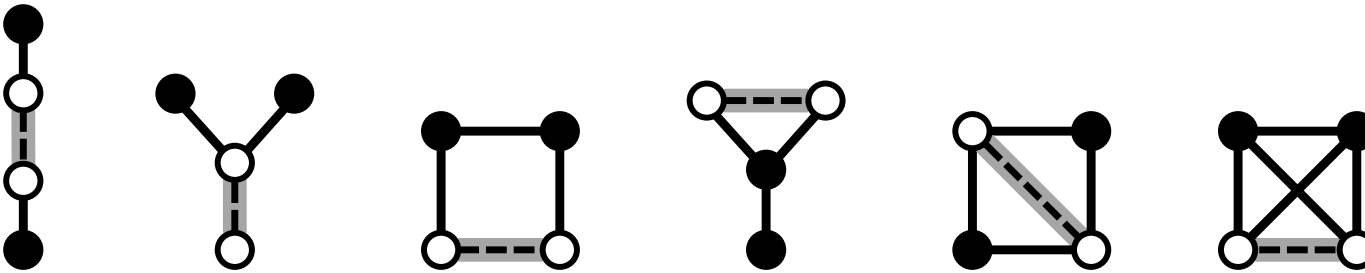
<sup>2</sup> Intel Labs

**MAKE IT AN  
EXPERIENCE**



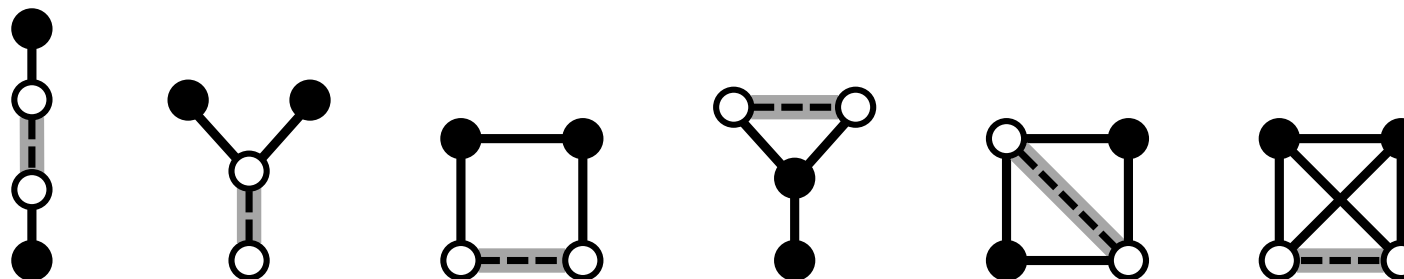
# Higher-Order Motif Closures

- Proposed general notion of a motif closure that goes beyond simple triangle closures
- Introduce higher-order ranking and link prediction methods based on closing higher-order network motifs
- Demonstrate that these new motif closures often outperform triangle-based methods



**DEFINITION 1 (MOTIF CLOSURE).** A node pair  $(i, j)$  is said to close a motif  $H$  iff adding an edge  $(i, j)$  to  $E$  closes an instance  $F \in I_{G'}(H)$  of motif  $H$  where  $G' = (V, E \cup \{(i, j)\})$  and  $I_{G'}(H)$  is the set of unique instances of motif  $H$  in  $G'$ .

# Higher-Order Motif Closure Frequency



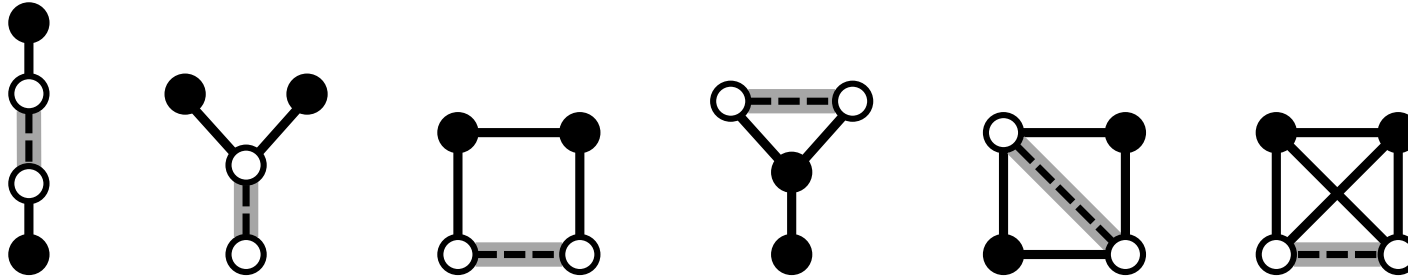
## DEFINITION 2 (HIGHER-ORDER MOTIF CLOSURE FREQUENCY).

Let  $G' = (V, E')$  where  $E' = E \cup \{(i, j)\}$  and let  $I_{G'}(H)$  be the set of unique instances of motif  $H$  in  $G'$ . Then the frequency of closing a higher-order motif  $H$  between node  $i$  and  $j$  is:

$$W_{ij} = \sum_{F \in I_{G'}(H)} \mathbb{I}(\{i, j\} \in E'(F)) \quad (1)$$

where  $W_{ij}$  is equal to the number of unique instances of  $H$  that contain nodes  $\{i, j\} \subset V(G')$  as an edge.

# Higher-Order Motif Closure Frequency



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**Algorithm 1** Higher-Order Motif Closures

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**Input:** a graph  $G = (V, E)$ , node pair  $(i, j)$ , and network motif/graphlet  $H$

**Output:** the frequency  $W_{ij}$  of motif closures of  $H$  for nodes  $i$  and  $j$

- 1 Set  $E' \leftarrow E \cup \{(i, j)\}$  and  $G' = (V, E')$
  - 2 Use fast algorithm [1, 4] to compute  $W_{ij} = \#$  of occurrences of motif  $H$  between node  $i$  and  $j$  in  $G'$
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# Experiments

The experiments investigate the following key questions:

- Q1. Do other motif closures perform better than triangle closure & its variants for some graphs?
- Q2. Does the “best” motif closure depend highly on the underlying network and its structural properties or is there one motif closure that always outperforms the others?

## Experimental Setup

- Hold-out 10% of the observed node pairs uniformly at random
- Randomly sample the same number of negative node pairs
- Use the methods to obtain a ranking of the node pairs
- Repeat this 10 times and average the result

# Results

Mean average precision (MAP) results for ranking methods based on closing higher-order motifs.

	<i>bn-mouse</i>	<i>bio-DM-LC</i>	<i>bio-CE-HT</i>	<i>bio-DM-HT</i>	<i>ia-reality</i>	<i>web-polblogs</i>	<i>biogrid-worm</i>	<i>biogrid-plant</i>	<i>biogrid-yeast</i>	<i>email-dnc-corec.</i>	<i>soc-advogato</i>	<i>econ-wm1</i>
<b>4-path</b>	0.829	0.687	0.607	0.594	0.649	0.778	0.865	0.729	0.893	0.873	0.914	0.788
<b>4-star</b>	0.880	0.787	0.595	0.696	<b>0.922</b>	0.814	0.895	0.861	0.840	0.813	0.889	0.688
<b>4-cycle</b>	<b>0.881</b>	<b>0.958</b>	<b>0.651</b>	<b>0.926</b>	0.827	0.885	<b>0.908</b>	<b>0.935</b>	0.927	0.957	0.930	0.900
<b>4-tailed-triangle</b>	0.804	0.612	0.570	0.752	0.773	0.663	0.773	0.681	0.689	0.779	0.600	0.496
<b>4-chordal-cycle</b>	0.801	0.837	0.598	0.842	0.312	<b>0.966</b>	0.840	0.854	<b>0.977</b>	0.996	<b>0.986</b>	0.947
<b>4-clique</b>	0.804	0.838	0.595	0.843	0.293	0.963	0.842	0.847	0.972	<b>0.997</b>	<b>0.986</b>	<b>0.965</b>
<b>CN</b>	0.705	0.872	0.613	0.839	0.422	0.814	0.833	0.897	0.839	0.960	0.949	0.852
<b>Jaccard Sim.</b>	0.705	0.873	0.618	0.841	0.537	0.933	0.853	0.918	0.955	<b>0.997</b>	0.973	0.918
<b>Adamic/Adar</b>	0.705	0.883	0.621	0.842	0.549	0.940	0.856	0.920	0.959	<b>0.997</b>	0.976	0.919

**Result 1.** Higher-order motif closures can outperform triangle closure (common neighbors) and other methods based on it



# Results

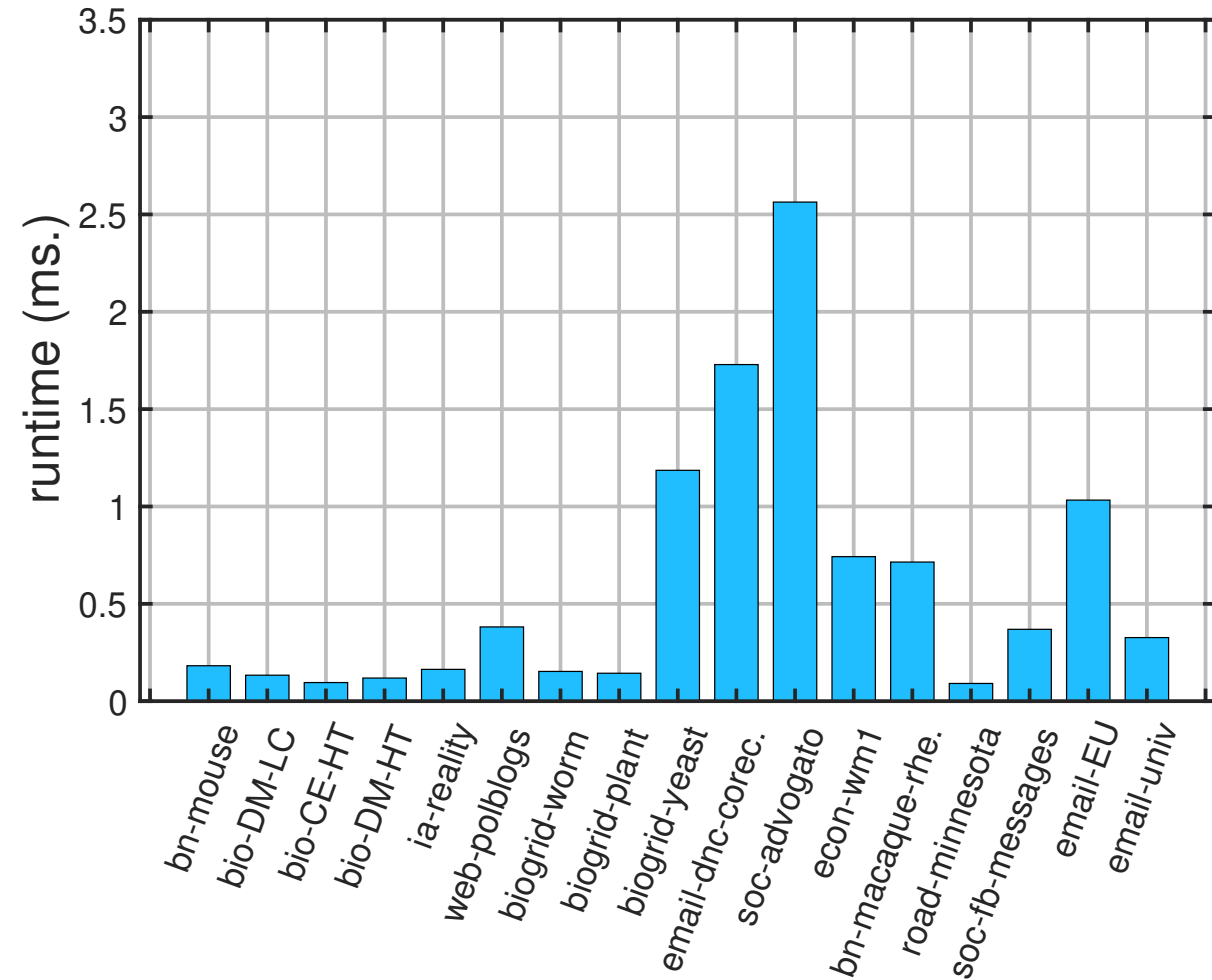
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**Result 2.** The best motif closure depends highly on the structural characteristics of the graph and its domain (biological vs. social network) as shown in the above Table.

# Results

- Average runtime in milliseconds to compute all  $\{3, 4\}$ -node motif closures for each node pair.
- The runtime includes the baselines since they require 3-node motifs.



**Result 3.** For any 4-node motif  $H$ , counting the number of motif closures  $W_{ij}$  that would arise if an edge between  $i$  and  $j$  was added to  $G$  is fast taking less than a millisecond on average across all graphs



# Summary of Contributions

- Proposed General Notion of "Motif Closure"
  - Moves beyond simple triangle closures
- Motif closures are often more predictive than triangle closures
- Important Findings & Implications of Results
  - Need to consider other motif closures (besides triangle closures)
  - Best motif closure depends highly on the network structure and processes governing it
  - Existing supervised methods can benefit new motif closures (by leveraging full spectrum, most dense to least)

Thanks for listening!

# Appendix