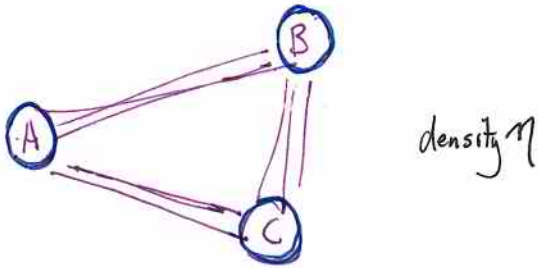


## Lecture 10

- Szemerédi's Regularity Lemma
- Testing dense graph property of  $\Delta$ -freeness

Graphs with "random" properties:**Example Question:**

How many triangles in a random tripartite graph?



$\forall u \in A, v \in B, w \in C:$

$$\Pr[u \sim v \sim w] = \eta^3$$

$$\delta_{u,v,w} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } u \sim v \sim w \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

$$E[\delta_{u,v,w}] = \eta^3$$

$$E[\# \text{ triangles}] = E\left[\sum_{\substack{u \in A \\ v \in B \\ w \in C}} \delta_{u,v,w}\right]$$

$$= \eta^3 |A| |B| |C| \quad \blacksquare$$

What weaker assumptions can we make to get similar bounds?

One possibility:

Density + regularity of set pairs:

def For  $A, B \subseteq V$  st.

(1)  $A \cap B = \emptyset$

(2)  $|A|, |B| > 1$

Let  $e(A, B) = \# \text{edges bet } A \text{ and } B$

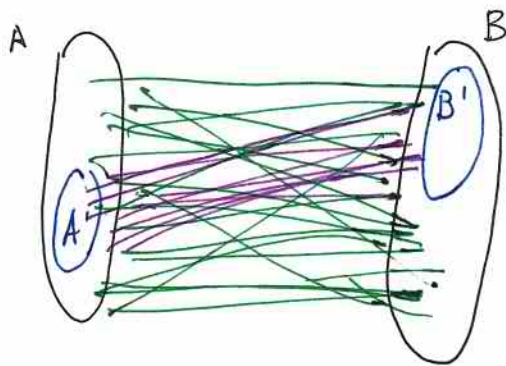
+ density  $d(A, B) = \frac{e(A, B)}{|A| |B|}$

Say  $A, B$  is  $\gamma$ -regular if  $\forall A' \subseteq A, B' \subseteq B$

st.  $|A'| \geq \gamma |A|$   
 $|B'| \geq \gamma |B|$

behaves like a "random" graph

$|d(A', B') - d(A, B)| < \gamma$



So lose only factor of 16

Lemma [Komlos Simonovits]

(density)  $\forall \eta > 0$

$\exists \gamma$  (regularity parameter, depends only on  $\eta$ )

$f^A(\eta)$

$= \frac{1}{2} \eta$

$\delta$  (#triangles, depends only on  $\eta$ )

$= (1-\eta) \frac{\eta^3}{8} \geq \frac{\eta^3}{16} = f^{\Delta}(\eta)$

if  $\eta < 1/2$

st. if  $A, B, C$  disjoint subsets of  $V$  st. each pair is  $\gamma$ -regular with density  $> \eta$

then  $G$  contains  $\geq \delta \cdot |A| \cdot |B| \cdot |C|$  distinct  $\Delta$ 's with vertex from each of  $A, B, C$ .

Proof ([Alon Fischer Krivelevich Szegedy] simplify).

$A^* \leftarrow$  nodes in  $A$  with  $\geq (\eta - \gamma) |B|$  nbrs in  $B$   
 $\geq (\eta - \gamma) |C|$  nbrs in  $C$

Claim  $|A^*| \geq (1 - 2\gamma) |A|$

Pf of Claim

$A' \leftarrow$  "bad" nodes of  $A$  wrt.  $B$  (i.e.  $< (\eta - \gamma) |B|$  nbrs in  $B$ )  
 $A'' \leftarrow$  " " " " " " "  $C$  (" " " " " " "  $C$ )  
 then  $|A'| \leq \gamma |A|$  (and  $|A''| \leq \gamma |A|$ )

why? otherwise: look at pair  $A', B$   
 size  $|B| \geq \gamma |B|$   
 size  $\geq \gamma |A|$  by assumption  
 by def of  $A'$

$$d(A', B) < \frac{|A'| \cdot (\eta - \gamma) |B|}{|A'| |B|} = \eta - \gamma$$

but  $d(A, B) \geq \eta$   
 so  $|d(A', B) - d(A, B)| > \gamma$

$\rightarrow \leftarrow$  to  $\gamma$ -regularity

(similarly for  $|A''| \leq \gamma |A|$ )

But  $A^* = A \setminus (A' \cup A'')$

$$\text{so } |A^*| \geq |A| - |A'| - |A''| \\ \geq |A| - 2\gamma |A| = (1 - 2\gamma) |A|$$

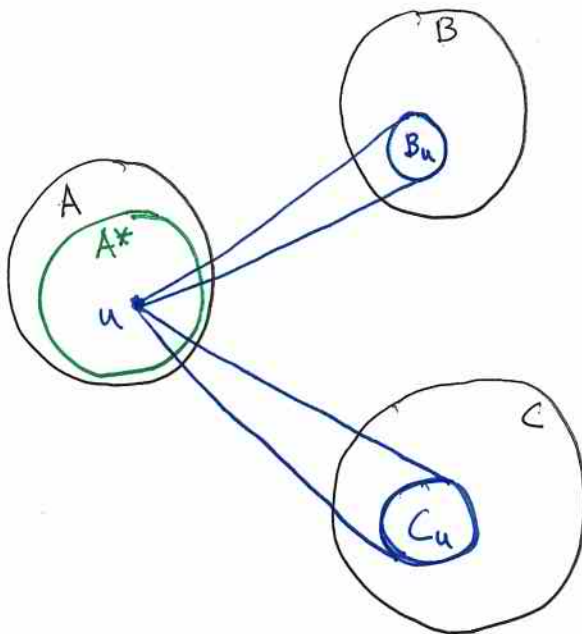
■ end-proof-of-claim

Finishing proof of Lemma:

For each  $u \in A^*$ :

def.  $B_u \equiv$  nbrs of  $u$  in  $B$  so  $|B_u| \geq (\eta - \gamma) |B| \geq \gamma |B|$

$C_u \equiv$  nbrs of  $u$  in  $C$  so  $|C_u| \geq (\eta - \gamma) |C| \geq \gamma |C|$



Since  $\gamma$  chosen st.  $\gamma < \frac{\eta}{2}$ , we have  $\eta - \gamma > \gamma$

Note: #edges between  $B_u + C_u \Rightarrow$  lower bound on # distinct triangles with  $u$  as a vertex

$$d(B, C) \geq \eta$$

$$\Rightarrow d(B_u, C_u) \geq \eta - \gamma \quad (\text{since } |B_u|, |C_u| \text{ big enough + } B, C \text{ } \gamma\text{-regular})$$

$$\Rightarrow e(B_u, C_u) \geq (\eta - \gamma) |B_u| |C_u|$$

$$\geq (\eta - \gamma)^3 |B| |C| \quad \leftarrow \text{l.b. on \# triangles with } u$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{total \# } \Delta\text{'s} \geq (1 - 2\gamma) |A| \cdot (\eta - \gamma)^3 |B| |C|$$

$$\geq (1 - \eta) \left(\frac{\eta}{2}\right)^3 \cdot |A| \cdot |B| \cdot |C| = (1 - \eta) \frac{\eta^3}{8} \cdot |A| \cdot |B| \cdot |C|$$

choosing  $\gamma = \eta/2$



Do any interesting graphs have regularity properties?

in some sense, all graphs do! i.e. every graph (in some sense) can be approximated by random graphs.

Szemerédi's Regularity Lemma

would like it to say:

"one can equipartition the nodes  $V$  into  $V_1, \dots, V_k$   
 (for some const  $k$ ) st. all pairs  $(V_i, V_j)$  are  $\epsilon$ -regular"

only most  
 i.e.  $\leq \epsilon \binom{k}{2}$   
 don't have to be regular

$k$ 's const  $> 1$   
 sometimes need  $k > m$   
 for some  $m$   
 ( $k=1, k=n$  trivial)

A more useful version:

Lemma

$\forall m, \epsilon > 0 \quad \exists T = T(m, \epsilon)$  <sup>huge constant</sup> st.

given  $G = (V, E)$  st.  $|V| > T$

+  $\mathcal{A}$  an equipartition of  $V$  into sets

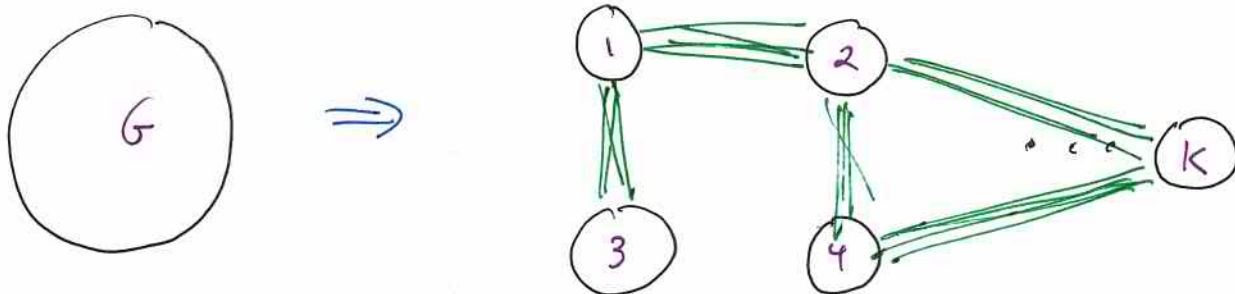
then  $\exists$  equipartition  $\beta$  into  $k$  sets which refines  $\mathcal{A}$ ,

st.  $m \leq k \leq T$

+  $\leq \epsilon \binom{k}{2}$  set pairs not  $\epsilon$ -regular

Note:  $T$  does not depend on  $|V|$

"Picture" :



Why is this good?

- partition big graph into "constant" # partitions  
st. each pair behaves like random bipartite graph
- random bipartite graphs have nice properties

Why was SRL first studied?

to prove conjecture of Erdős + Turán  
sequences of ints must always contain long  
arithmetic progressions.

Very rough idea of a proof:

$$\text{ind}(V_1 \dots V_k) = \frac{1}{k^2} \sum_{i=1}^k \sum_{j=i+1}^k d^2(V_i, V_j) \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

if a partition violates, can refine st.  
ind  $(V'_1 \dots V'_{k'})$  grows significantly (i.e. by  $\approx \epsilon^c$ )  
so in less than  $\frac{1}{\epsilon^c}$  refinements,  
have good partition

How many classes  $(k')$ ?

U.b.: tower of size  $\frac{1}{\epsilon^c}$   
l.b.: " " "  $\frac{1}{\epsilon^c}$





An application of the SRL:

Property testing of a graph: is it triangle-free?

Given: graph  $G$ , adjacency matrix format

Desired Behavior: if  $G$  is  $\Delta$ -free, output PASS

if  $G$  is  $\varepsilon$ -far from  $\Delta$ -free then  $\Pr[\text{output FAIL}] > \frac{1}{2}$   
 must delete  $\geq \varepsilon n^2$  edges to make it  $\Delta$ -free

1-sided error

How much time does this require?  
 trivial  $O(n^3)$ ,  $O(n^w)$ , ...,  $O(1)$ ?  
 matmult

Algorithm

Do  $O(\delta^{-1})$  times

Pick  $v_1, v_2, v_3$

if  $\Delta$  reject & halt

Accept

← constant time!

Thm  $\forall \epsilon, \exists \delta$  s.t.  $\forall G$  s.t.  $|V|=n$   
 $\nexists$  s.t.  $G$  is  $\epsilon$ -far from  $\Delta$ -free,  
 then  $G$  has  $\geq \delta \binom{n}{3}$  distinct  $\Delta$ 's.

← note, this thm is specific to notion of  $\epsilon$ -far from  $\Delta$ -free defined above ("Adjacency matrix model")

Corollary Algorithm has desired behavior

Pf of Cor (Given Thm)

if  $\Delta$ -free, accepts ✓

if  $\epsilon$ -far,  
 $\geq \delta \binom{n}{3}$   $\Delta$ 's

each loop passes with prob  $\leq 1-\delta$

$\Pr[\text{don't find } \Delta] \leq (1-\delta)^{c/\delta}$   
 $\leq e^{-c} < 1/3$  ■

for proper choice of const  $c$  in "0" notation

Proof of Thm

Use regularity to get equipartition  $\{V_1, \dots, V_k\}$

s.t.  $\frac{5}{\epsilon} \leq k \leq T(5\epsilon^{-1}, \epsilon')$   $\leftarrow$  # nodes per partition

equivalently:  $\frac{\epsilon n}{\delta} \geq \frac{n}{k} \geq \frac{n}{T(5\epsilon^{-1}, \epsilon')}$

(do this by starting with arbitrary equipartition into  $5/\epsilon$  sets as  $A$ )

for  $\epsilon' \equiv \min \left\{ \frac{\epsilon}{5}, \gamma^\Delta \left( \frac{\epsilon}{5} \right) \right\}$

s.t.  $\leq \epsilon' \binom{k}{2}$  pairs not  $\epsilon'$ -regular

Need: # of partitions fairly large st. # edges inside a partition not too big

Assume  $n/k$  is integer

$G' \equiv$  take  $G$  and

1) delete edges of  $G$  internal to any  $V_i$ .

how many?

$$\leq \frac{n}{k} \cdot n \leq \frac{\epsilon n^2}{5}$$

$\uparrow$  deg w/in  $V_i$        $\uparrow$  sum over all nodes  
 $\downarrow$  choice of  $k$

2) delete edges between  $\epsilon'$ -nonregular pairs

how many?

$$\leq \epsilon' \binom{k}{2} \left(\frac{n}{k}\right)^2 \leq \frac{\epsilon}{5} \cdot \frac{k^2}{2} \cdot \frac{n^2}{k^2} \leq \frac{\epsilon}{10} \cdot n^2$$

$\underbrace{\epsilon' \binom{k}{2}}_{\# \text{ non-regular pairs}}$        $\underbrace{\left(\frac{n}{k}\right)^2}_{\text{max \# edges per pair - here we use equipartition } \Rightarrow \text{ max size of } V_i \text{ is } \approx \frac{n}{k} (+1)?}$

3) delete edges between  $\underbrace{\text{low density pairs}}_{< \frac{\epsilon}{5}}$

how many?

$$\leq \sum_{\text{low density}} \frac{\epsilon}{5} \left(\frac{n}{k}\right)^2 \leq \frac{\epsilon}{5} \binom{n}{2} \approx \frac{\epsilon n^2}{10}$$

note  $\sum \left(\frac{n}{k}\right)^2 \leq \binom{n}{2}$

Total deleted edges from  $G$ :  $< \epsilon n^2$

But,  $G$  was  $\epsilon$ -far from  $\Delta$ -free

so  $G'$  must still have a  $\Delta$  !!!

(the  $\Delta$  must be 1) in 3 distinct  $V_i, V_j, V_k$  since removed inter partition edges

2) regular pairs - since removed non-regular pairs

3) high density pairs - since removed low density pairs

by construction of  $G'$ )

$\therefore \exists i, j, k$  distinct s.t.  $x \in V_i, y \in V_j, z \in V_k$

$V_i, V_j, V_k$  all  $\geq \frac{\epsilon}{5} \eta$  density pairs

$\star \geq \delta^\Delta(\frac{\epsilon}{5})$ -regular  
 $\geq \frac{\eta}{2} \geq \frac{\epsilon}{10}$

$\Delta$ -counting Lemma  $\Rightarrow$

$$\geq \delta^\Delta(\frac{\epsilon}{5}) |V_i| \cdot |V_j| \cdot |V_k| \quad \text{triangles in } G'$$

where  $\delta^\Delta = (1-\eta) \frac{\eta^3}{8}$

$$\geq \frac{\delta^\Delta(\frac{\epsilon}{5}) n^3}{(T(\frac{\epsilon}{5}, \epsilon'))^3} \quad \Delta's$$

$$\geq \frac{1}{8} \frac{\epsilon^3}{8000} = \frac{\epsilon^3}{64000}$$

$$\geq \delta^1(n) \quad \Delta's \text{ in } G' \text{ (and thus in } G)$$

for  $\delta^1 = 6 \delta^\Delta(\frac{\epsilon}{5}) (T(\frac{\epsilon}{5}, \epsilon'))^{-3}$



## Extensions

• Komlos-Simonovits holds for all const sized subgraphs

• almost "as is" can use method to test all 1st-order graph properties

$$\exists u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots, u_k \quad \forall v_1, \dots, v_k \quad R(u_1, \dots, u_k, v_1, \dots, v_k)$$

defined by  $v_i, N_i, \gamma$   
nbrs

i.e.  $\forall u_1, u_2, u_3 \quad R(u_1, u_2, u_3)$

encodes  
 $\neg(u_1 \sim u_2, u_2 \sim u_3, u_1 \sim u_3)$

H-freeness for const size H



• 1-sided const time  $\approx$  hereditary graph props [Alon Shapira]

closed under vertex removal (not necessarily edges)

includes monotone graph props

chordal  
perfect  
interval graph

difficulty: infinite set of forbidden subgraphs also forbidden as induced.

• 2-sided const time  $\approx$  regular partition is hardest testing problem  
property testable iff can reduce to testing [Alon Fisher Newman Shapira]  
if satisfies one of finitely many Szemerédi partitions.