

## Testing "Triangle Freeness" for Dense Graphs

def.  $G$  is  $\Delta$ -free if  $\nexists x,y,z$  st.  $A(x,y)=A(y,z)=A(x,z)=1$

Claim (will prove in homework)

If there is a property testing algorithm for  $\Delta$ -free-ness then there is an algorithm that works as follows:

pick random  $x,y,z$

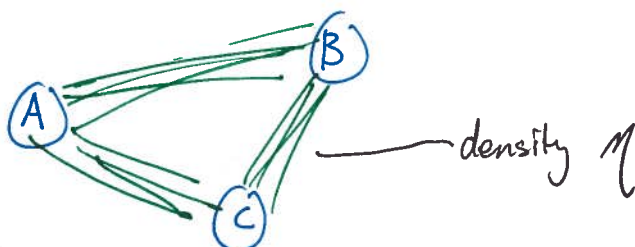
test if  $A(x,y)=A(y,z)=A(x,z)=1$

But the question remains... how many times do you need to repeat the test?

Lets take a detour:

How many triangles in a random tripartite graph?

*which weaker assumptions give similar bounds?*



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

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

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

$$E [\# \text{triangles}] = E \left[ \sum_{\substack{u \in A \\ v \in B \\ w \in C}} b_{u,v,w} \right] = \eta^3 \cdot |A| |B| |C|$$



One possibility:

### Density & Regularity of set pairs:

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

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

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

Let  $e(A, B) = \#$  edges between  $A \cup B$

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

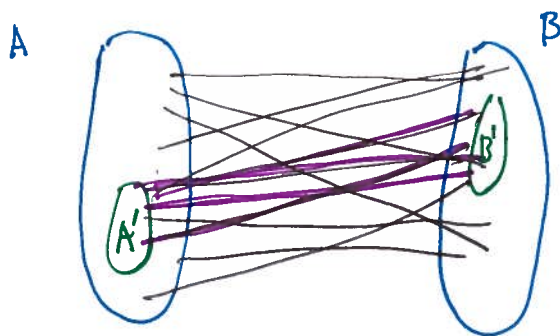
Say  $A, B$  is  $\gamma$ -regular if  $\forall A' \subseteq A, B' \subseteq B$

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

behaves like a "random" graph

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

these two parameters don't have to be the same, they are here just to reduce # of parameters



lose only factor of 16!

### Lemma [Korolyov Simonovits]

(density)  
 $\forall \eta > 0$

$\exists \delta$  (regularity parameter, depends only on  $\eta$ )  $= \frac{1}{2} \eta \equiv \delta^\Delta(\eta)$   
 $\delta$  (# triangles, depends only on  $\eta$ )  $= (1-\eta) \frac{\eta^3}{8} \geq \frac{\eta^3}{16} \equiv \delta^\Delta(\eta)$

↑ if  $\eta \leq 1/2$

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

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

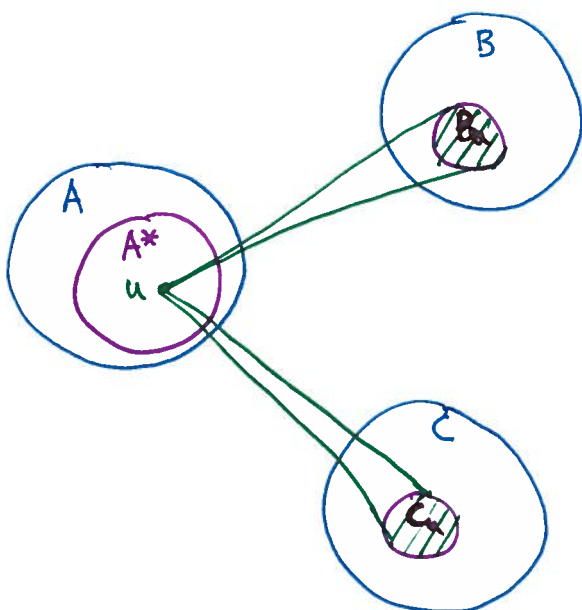


Finishing proof of lemma:

for each  $u \in A^*$ :

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

assumption on  $\gamma$  choice



since  $\gamma$  chosen st.  $\gamma < \frac{\eta}{2}$ ,  $\eta - \gamma > \gamma$

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

$K$  is const  $> 1$   
may need  $K > m$  for given  $m$  ( $K=1, K=m$  trivial)

would like it to say:

"one can equipartition the nodes  $V$  into  $V_1, \dots, V_K$

(for some constant  $K$ ) 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

Really Really huge!! a tower of 2's of size  $\text{poly}(1/\epsilon)$

more useful version:

Lemma

huge constant, does not depend on  $|V|$

$\forall m, \epsilon > 0 \quad \exists T = T(m, \epsilon)$  st.

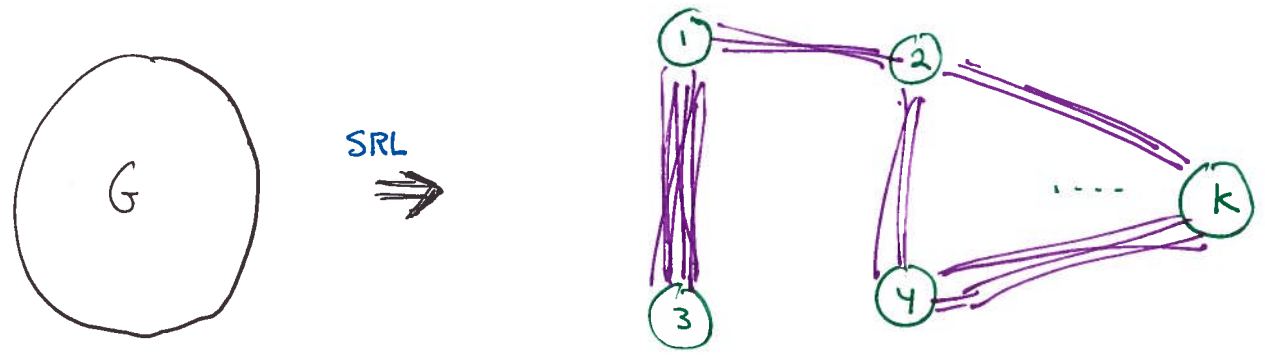
given  $G = (V, E)$  st.  $|V| > T$

$\exists \mathcal{A}$  an equipartition of  $V$  into sets  
then  $\exists$  equipartition  $\beta$  into  $k$  sets which

refine  $\mathcal{A}$  + st.  $m \leq k \leq T$

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

"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 integers must always contain long  
arithmetic progressions

An application of the SRL:

Property testing

Given  $G$ , adjacency matrix format

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

if  $G$  is  $\epsilon$ -far from  $\Delta$ -free,  $\Pr[\text{output FAIL}] \geq 3/4$   
 must delete  $\geq \epsilon n^2$  edges to make it  $\Delta$ -free

How much time does this require?

trivial  $O(n^3)$ ,  $O(n^w)$ , ...,  $O(1)$ ?  
 matrix mult

Algorithm

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

Pick  $v_1, v_2, v_3$

if  $\Delta$  reject + halt

Accept

Thm  $\forall \epsilon, \exists \delta$  st.  $\forall G$  st.  $|V|=n$

+ st.  $G$  is  $\epsilon$ -far from  $\Delta$ -free

then  $G$  has  $\geq \delta \binom{n}{3}$  distinct  $\Delta$ 's

← note this theorem is specific to notion of  $\epsilon$ -far from  $\Delta$ -free defined above "Adj matrix model"

Corollary Algorithm has desired behavior

ie. if  $\Delta$ -free, accepts with prob  $\geq \frac{1}{2}$

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

$$\Pr[\text{don't find } \Delta \text{ in } \frac{c}{8} \text{ loops}] \leq (1-\delta)^{4/8}$$

$$\leq e^{-c} < 1/4$$

for big enough  $c$

### Proof of Thm

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

$$\text{st. } \frac{5}{\epsilon} \leq k \leq T(5\epsilon^{-1}, \epsilon')$$

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

← #nodes per partition

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

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

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



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

slight cheat  $\rightarrow$  Assume  $n/k$  is integer

Clean up  $G$ !

$G'$   $\equiv$  take  $G$  and

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

how many?

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

choice of  $k$   
deg w/in  $V_i$   
since  $|V_i| \leq \frac{n}{k}$   
sum over all  $n$  nodes

2) delete edges between  $\epsilon'$ -nonregular pairs  
note  $\epsilon' = \min(\frac{\epsilon}{5}, \sqrt{\Delta(\frac{\epsilon}{5})})$

how many?

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

# non-regular pairs

max # edges per pair  
here we use: equipartition  $\Rightarrow |V_i| = \frac{n}{k}$

3) delete edges between low density pairs  
low  $\leq \frac{\epsilon}{5}$

how many?

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

note  $\sum \binom{n}{k}^2 \leq \binom{n}{2}$

$$\leq \frac{\epsilon}{5} \binom{n}{2} \approx \frac{\epsilon n^2}{10}$$

So total deleted edges from  $G < \epsilon n^2$

$\leftarrow$  so cheat isn't so bad

But,  $G$  was  $\varepsilon$ -far from  $\Delta$ -free,  
 so  $G'$  must still have a  $\Delta$  !!!

Furthermore, by the way we constructed  $G'$ , we  
 know a lot about the  $\Delta$ :  $\forall \Delta$ 's  $abc \in V_i, V_j, V_k$

1) it must be that  $i, j, k$  distinct  
 since removed all edges within partitions

2)  $(i, j)$   $(j, k)$   $(i, k)$  are regular pairs  
 since removed non-regular pairs

3)  $(i, j)$   $(j, k)$   $(i, k)$  are high density pairs  
 since removed low density pairs

$\therefore \exists i, j, k$  distinct st.  $a \in V_i$   $b \in V_j$   $z \in V_k$   
 $V_i V_j V_k$  all  $\geq \frac{\varepsilon}{5}$ -density pairs

$\dagger$   $\delta^\Delta(\frac{\varepsilon}{5})$ -regular  
 $\equiv \frac{\eta}{2} \geq \frac{\varepsilon}{10}$

$\Delta$ -counting Lemma  $\Rightarrow$

$$\begin{aligned} &\geq \delta^\Delta\left(\frac{\varepsilon}{5}\right) |V_i| |V_j| |V_k| \quad \text{triangles in } G' \\ &\geq \frac{\delta^\Delta\left(\frac{\varepsilon}{5}\right) n^3}{\left(T\left(\frac{5}{\varepsilon}, \varepsilon'\right)\right)^3} \Delta\text{'s} \quad \text{where } \delta^\Delta = (1-\eta) \frac{\eta^3}{8} \\ &\geq \frac{1}{2} \frac{\varepsilon^3}{8000} = \frac{\varepsilon^3}{16000} \end{aligned}$$

$$\geq \delta'\left(\frac{n}{3}\right) \Delta\text{'s in } G' \text{ \& thus in } G$$

for  $\delta' = 6 \delta^\Delta\left(\frac{\varepsilon}{5}\right) \left(T\left(\frac{5}{\varepsilon}, \varepsilon'\right)\right)^{-3}$  ▣

### Extensions

• Komlos-Simonovits holds for all const sized subgraphs

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

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

defined by  $V, A, \gamma$  neighbors

i.e.  $\forall u_1, u_2, u_3$

$$R(u_1, u_2, u_3)$$

encodes

$$\gamma(u_1, u_2, u_2, u_3, u_1, u_3)$$

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.  
see also work by [Bojcs Chayes Lovasz Sos Szegedy Veszteg Zimbardi]