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#### Introduction



The topic course is mostly based the textbook "The probabilistic Method" by Noga Alon and Joel Spencer (third edition 2008, John Wiley & Sons, Inc. ISBN 9780470170205 or fourth edition ISBN-13: 978-1119061953.)







## **Selected topics**



- Linearity of Expectation (2 weeks)
- Alterations (1 week)
- The second moment method (1 week)
- The Local Lemma (1-2 weeks)
- Correlation Inequalities (1 week)
- Large deviation inequalities (3 weeks)
- Poisson Paradigm (1 week)
- Random graphs (2 weeks)
- Discrepancy (1 week)
- Entropy (1 week)





#### Random graphs

- Supercritical regimes
- Barely Supercritical Phase
- The critical window
- Range V
- Threshold of connectivity
- Range VI



Now we consider G(n, p) for p = c/n, with c > 1 constant. Let y := y(c) be the positive real solution of  $e^{-cy} = 1 - y$ . Choose a large constant K > 0 and a small constant  $\delta > 0$ . Let C(v) be the component of G(n, p) containing v.



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**Claim:** The probability of having any awkward component is  $o(n^{-20})$ .



# No middle ground

**Proof:** We will show for any awkward t,  $Pr(|C(v)| = t) = o(n^{-22})$ . Note

$$\Pr(|C(v)| = t) \le \Pr(B(n-1, 1 - (1 - \frac{c}{n})^t) = t - 1.$$



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$$\Pr\left(B(n-1, 1 - (1 - \frac{c}{n})^t\right) = O(e^{-Ct})$$

for some constant C. Since  $t \ge K \log n$  and K large enough, this probability is  $o(n^{-22})$  as required.

Let  $\alpha = \Pr(C(v) \text{ is not small })$ . Then

$$\alpha = \Pr(T_c^{po} \ge S) \approx \Pr(T_c^{po} = \infty) = y.$$

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Each giant component has size between  $(y - \delta)n$  and  $(y + \delta)n$ .

It remains to show the giant component is unique and of size about yn.



Topic Course on Probabilistic Methods (week 12)





Set  $p_1 = n^{-3/2}$ . Let  $G_1 = G(n, p_1)$ , G = G(n, p), and  $G^+ = G \cup G_1$ . Note  $G^+ \sim G(n, p^+)$  with  $p^+ = p + p_1 - pp_1$ .







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Suppose that G has two giant components  $V_1$  and  $V_2$ . Then the probability that  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  is not connected after sprinkling is at most

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Since  $\delta$  can be made arbitrarily small, the unique giant component has size (1 + o(1))yn.



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The following statements hold.

- $Pr(\exists an awkward component) = O(n^{-20}).$
- The escape probability  $\alpha \approx y \approx 2\epsilon$ .
  - Sprinkling works with  $p_1 = n^{-4/3}$ .



# The critical window



Now consider G(n, p) with  $p = \frac{1}{n} + \lambda n^{-4/3}$  for a fixed  $\lambda$ . This critical window has been studied by **Bollabás**, Łuczak, Janson, Knuth, Pittel and many others. It requires delicate calculations.



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For fixed c > 0, Let X be the number of tree components of size  $k = cn^{2/3}$ . Then

$$E(X) = \binom{n}{k} k^{k-2} p^{k-1} (1-p)^{k(n-k) + \binom{k}{2} - (k-1)}.$$



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Recall

$$\ln(1+x) = x - \frac{1}{2}x^2 + O(x^3).$$



#### **Estimation**



#### We estimate

$$\binom{n}{k} \approx \frac{n^k}{(k/e)^k \sqrt{2\pi k}} \prod_{i=1}^{k-1} \left(1 - \frac{i}{n}\right),$$

#### and

$$\prod_{i=1}^{k-1} \left( 1 - \frac{i}{n} \right) = e^{\sum_{i=1}^{k-1} \ln(1 - i/n)}$$
$$= e^{-\sum_{i=1}^{k-1} (i/n + i^2/2n^2 + O(i^3/n^3))}$$
$$= e^{-\frac{k^2}{2n} - \frac{k^3}{6n^2} + o(1)}$$
$$= e^{-\frac{k^2}{2n} - \frac{c^3}{6} + o(1)}.$$





#### We also estimate

$$p^{k-1} = n^{1-k} (1 + \lambda n^{-1/3})^{k-1}$$
  
=  $n^{1-k} e^{(k-1)\ln(1+\lambda n^{-1/3})}$   
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$$(1-p)^{k(n-k)+\binom{k}{2}-(k-1)} = e^{(kn-k^2/2+O(k))\ln(1-p)}$$
  
=  $e^{-(kn-k^2/2+O(k))(p+p^2/2+O(p^3))}$   
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We get

 $E(X) \approx nk^{-5/2} (2\pi)^{-1/2} e^A,$ 

where  $A = \frac{(\lambda - c)^3 - \lambda^3}{6}$ .



#### **Putting together**

We get

$$E(X) \approx nk^{-5/2} (2\pi)^{-1/2} e^A,$$

where  $A = \frac{(\lambda - c)^3 - \lambda^3}{6}$ . For any fixed  $a, b, \lambda$ , let X be the number of tree components of size between  $an^{2/3}$  and  $bn^{2/3}$ . Then

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \mathcal{E}(X) = \int_{a}^{b} e^{A(c)} c^{-5/2} (2\pi)^{-1/2} dc.$$



#### **Other components**

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Let  $X^{(l)}$  be the number of components on k vertices with k-1+l edges. Then a similar calculation shows

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Let  $X^*$  be the total number of components of size between  $an^{2/3}$  and  $bn^{2/3}$ . Let  $g(c) = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} c_l c^{3l/2}$ . Then  $\lim_{n \to \infty} E(X^*) = \int_a^b e^{A(c)} c^{-5/2} (2\pi)^{-1/2} g(c) dc.$ 



## Duality



For a fixed k, consider two random graphs G(n, p) and G(n', p'). Assume c = np > 1 and c' = n'p' < 1. We say G(n, p) and G(n', p') are **dual** to each other if  $ce^{-c} = c'e^{-c'}$ .



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$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \Pr(C(v) = k \text{ in } G(n, p) | C(v) \text{ is small})$$

$$= \frac{1}{1-y} \frac{e^{-ck}(ck)^{k-1}}{k!} = \frac{e^{-c'k}(c'k)^{k-1}}{k!}$$
$$= \lim_{n' \to \infty} \Pr(C(v) = k \text{ in } G(n', p')).$$









Consider G(n,p) with

$$p = \frac{\log n}{kn} + \frac{(k-1)\log\log n}{kn} + \frac{t}{n} + o(\frac{1}{n}),$$

then there are only trees of size at most k except for the giant component. Let X be the number of trees of k vertices.







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$$E(X) = {\binom{n}{k}} k^{k-2} p^{k-1} (1-p)^{k(n-k)+\binom{k}{2}-k+1}$$
$$\approx \frac{1}{k^2 p \cdot k!} (knp)^k e^{-knp} \approx \frac{e^{-kt}}{k \cdot k!}.$$







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$$\approx \frac{1}{k^2 p \cdot k!} (knp)^k e^{-knp} \approx \frac{e^{-kt}}{k \cdot k!}.$$

Further, X follows the Poisson distribution.

For k = 1 and  $p = \frac{\log n}{n} + \frac{t}{n} + o(\frac{1}{n})$ , G(n, p) consists of a giant component with n - O(1) vertices and bounded number of isolated vertices.



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- The distribution of the number of isolated vertices again has a Poisson distribution with mean value  $e^{-t}$ .
- The probability that G(n,p) is connected tends to  $e^{-e^{-t}}$
- As  $t \to \infty$ , G(n, p) is almost surely connected.









Consider G(n,p) with  $p \sim \omega(n) \log n/n$  where  $\omega(n) \to \infty$ .





# Range VI

Consider G(n,p) with  $p \sim \omega(n) \log n/n$  where  $\omega(n) \to \infty$ . In this range,  $G_{n,p}$  is not only almost surely connected, but the degrees of almost all vertices are asymptotically equal.





# Range VI

Consider G(n,p) with  $p \sim \omega(n) \log n/n$  where  $\omega(n) \to \infty$ . In this range,  $G_{n,p}$  is not only almost surely connected, but the degrees of almost all vertices are asymptotically equal. Let  $X = d_v$  be the degree of v. By Chernoff's inequality, With probability at least  $1 - O(n^{-2})$ , we have

$$|X - \mathcal{E}(X)| < 2\sqrt{\omega(n)}\log n.$$

Almost surely, for all v,  $d_v$  is in the interval  $[d - 2\sqrt{\omega(n)} \log n, d + 2\sqrt{\omega(n)} \log n]$ , where d = np is the expected degree.





# **Subgraphs**



**Theorem:** Let H be a strictly balanced graph with v vertices, m edges, and a automorphisms. Let c > 0 be arbitrary. Then with  $p = cn^{-v/m}$ ,

 $\lim_{n \to \infty} \Pr(G(n, p) \text{ contains no } H) = e^{-c^m/a}.$ 





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$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \Pr(G(n, p) \text{ contains no } H) = e^{-c^m/a}$$

**Proof:** Let  $A_{\alpha}$ ,  $1 \leq \alpha \leq {n \choose v} v! / a$ , range over the edge sets of possible copies of H and  $B_{\alpha}$  be the event  $A_{\alpha} \subset G(n, p)$ . We will apply Janson's Inequality.

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \mu = \lim_{n \to \infty} {n \choose v} v! p^m / a = c^m / a.$$
$$\lim_{n \to \infty} M = e^{-c^m / a}.$$



Topic Course on Probabilistic Methods (week 12)



## Proof

Consider  $\Delta = \sum_{\alpha \sim \beta} \Pr(B_{\alpha} \wedge B_{\beta})$ . We split the sum according to the number of vertices in  $A_{\alpha} \cap A_{\beta}$ . For  $2 \leq j \leq v$ , let  $f_j$  be the maximal number of edges in  $A_{\alpha} \cap A_{\beta}$  where  $\alpha \sim \beta$  and  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  intersect in j vertices. Since H is strictly balanced,

$$\frac{f_j}{j} < \frac{m}{v}.$$

There are  $O(n^{2v-j})$  choices of  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  For such  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,

$$\Pr(B_{\alpha} \wedge B_{\beta}) = p^{|A_{\alpha} \cup A_{\beta}|} \le p^{2m - f_j}.$$







 $\Delta \le \sum_{j=2}^{v} O(n^{2v-j}) O(n^{(v/m)(2m-f_j)}).$ 









But

$$2v - j - (v/m)(2m - f_j) = \frac{vf_j}{e} - j < 0.$$









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Each term is o(1) and hence  $\Delta=o(1).$  By Janson's inequality,

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \Pr(\wedge \bar{B}_{\alpha}) = \lim_{n \to \infty} M = e^{-c^m/a}$$

The proof is finished.



# Clique number of $G(n, \frac{1}{2})$

For the rest of slides, we assume  $p = \frac{1}{2}$  and G := G(n, 1/2). Let  $\omega(G)$  Be the clique number. For a fixed c > 0, let  $n, k \to \infty$  so that

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 and  $k \sim \frac{2\ln n}{\ln 2}$ .



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$$\binom{n}{k} 2^{-\binom{k}{2}} \to c.$$

We get  $n \sim \frac{k}{e\sqrt{2}} 2^{k/2}$  and  $k \sim \frac{2\ln n}{\ln 2}$ . For this k, apply Poisson paradigm to X: the number of k-cliques. We have

$$\Pr(\omega(G < k)) = \Pr(X = 0) = (1 + o(1))e^{-c}.$$



#### **Two points concentration**

Let  $n_0(k)$  be the minumum n for which  $\binom{n}{k}2^{-\binom{k}{2}} \ge 1$ . For any  $\lambda \in (-\infty, +\infty)$  if  $n = n_0(k) \left[1 + \frac{\lambda + o(1)}{k}\right]$ , then

$$\binom{n}{k} 2^{-\binom{k}{2}} = \left[1 + \frac{\lambda + o(1)}{k}\right]^k = e^{\lambda} + o(1).$$

and so

$$\Pr(\omega(G) < k) = e^{-e^{\lambda}} + o(1).$$

Note that  $e^{-e^{\lambda}}$  ranges from 1 to 0 as  $\lambda$  ranges from  $-\infty$  to  $+\infty$ . Let K be arbitrarily large and set

$$f_k = [n_0(k)(1 - K/k), n_0(k)(1 + K/k)].$$

#### continues

For  $k \ge k_0(K)$ ,  $I_{k-1} \cap I_k = \emptyset$  since  $n_0(k+1) \sim \sqrt{2}n_0(k)$ . If n lies between the intevals,  $I_k < n < I_{k+1}$ , then

$$\Pr(\omega(G) = k) \ge e^{-e^{-K}} - e^{-e^{K}} + o(1).$$

With probability near one, we have  $\omega(G) = k$ .



#### continues

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$$\Pr(\omega(G) = k) \ge e^{-e^{-K}} - e^{-e^{K}} + o(1).$$

With probability near one, we have  $\omega(G) = k$ . If *n* lies in the inteval  $I_k$ , then we still have  $I_{k-1} < n < I_{k+1}$ , then

$$\Pr(\omega(G) = k - 1 \text{ or } k) \ge e^{-e^{-K}} - e^{-e^{K}} + o(1).$$

With probability near one, we have  $\omega(G) = k - 1$  or k.



Topic Course on Probabilistic Methods (week 12)

#### **Chromatic number**

Let  $f(k) = \binom{n}{k} 2^{-\binom{k}{2}}$  and  $k_0 = k_0(n)$  be that value for which  $f(k_0 - 1) > 1 > f(k_0).$ Setting  $k := k_0(n) - 4$ , then  $f(k) > n^{3+o(1)}$ . We apply the Extended Janson Inquality to estimate  $\Pr(\omega(G) < k)$ . We have  $\frac{\Delta}{\mu^2} = \sum_{i=2}^{k-1} g(i)$ , where  $g(i) = \frac{\binom{k}{i}\binom{n-k}{k-i}}{\binom{n}{k}} 2^{\binom{i}{2}}$ . As  $k \sim 2\log_2 n$ ,  $g(2) \sim k^4/n^2$ dominates. Thus,

$$\Pr(\omega(G) < k) < e^{-\mu^2/2\Delta} = e^{-\Theta(n^2/\ln^4 n)}$$



# **Chromatic number** $\chi(G)$

#### Theorem Bollabás (1988): Almost surely

$$\chi(G) \sim \frac{n}{2\log_2 n}.$$



## **Chromatic number** $\chi(G)$

#### Theorem Bollabás (1988): Almost surely

$$\chi(G) \sim \frac{n}{2\log_2 n}.$$

**Proof:** Note that  $\alpha(G) = \omega(\overline{G})$  and  $\overline{G}$  has the same distribution as G(n, 1/2). We have  $\alpha(G) \leq (2 + o(1)) \log_2 n$ . Thus almost surely

$$\Pr(\chi(G) \ge \frac{n}{\alpha(G)}) \ge (1 + o(1))\frac{n}{2\log_2 n}$$



#### reverse direction

Let  $m = \lfloor \frac{n}{\ln^2 n} \rfloor$ . For any set S of m vertices the restriction  $G|_S$  has the distribution  $G(m, \frac{1}{2})$ . Let k := k(m) as before. Note

$$k \sim 2\log_2 m \sim 2\log_2 n.$$

There are at most  $\binom{n}{m} < 2^n = 2^{m^{1+o(1)}}$  such set of S. Hence

$$\Pr(\exists S(\alpha(G|_S) < k)) < 2^{m^{1+o(1)}} e^{-m^{2+o(1)}} = o(1).$$



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$$\Pr(\exists S(\alpha(G|_S) < k)) < 2^{m^{1+o(1)}} e^{-m^{2+o(1)}} = o(1).$$

Almost surely every m vertices contain a k-element independent set.



#### continue

Now we pull out k-element independent sets and give each a distinct color until there are less than m vertices left. Then we given each point a distinct color. We have

$$\chi(G) \leq \left\lceil \frac{n-m}{k} \right\rceil + m$$
$$= (1+o(1))\frac{n}{2\log_2 n} + o\left(\frac{n}{\log_2 n}\right)$$
$$= (1+o(1))\frac{n}{2\log_2 n}.$$

The proof is finished.

