

# Triangle Removal & Szemerédi Regularity

Def  $(G, E)$  finite graph. ↴  
undirected, simple

$$e(G) = \frac{|E|}{|V|^2}$$
 edge density (Rmk: a little off since not directed, simple)

$$t(G) = \frac{|\{(x, y, z) \in V^3 : (x, y), (y, z), (z, x) \in E\}|}{|V|^3|}$$

Triangle Removal Thm  $\forall \epsilon \exists \delta \forall (G, E)$  finite  
 $t(G) \leq \delta \rightarrow \exists G' = (V, E') \subseteq G$  s.t.  $t(G') = 0$

and  $e(G \setminus G') \leq \epsilon$ .

"Remove few edges to get no triangles"

## Application (Roth's Thm)

$\forall \epsilon \exists n_0 \forall n \geq n_0 \forall A \subseteq [1, n] \left( \frac{|A|}{n} \geq \epsilon \rightarrow A \text{ contains 3-AP} \right)$

Pf Sketch  $V = 3$  copies of  $[1, 3n]$ ,  $V_1, V_2, V_3$

For  $(v, w) \in (V_1 \times V_2) \cup (V_2 \times V_3)$ , then  $(v, w) \in E \Leftrightarrow w - v \in A$

For  $(v, w) \in V_1 \times V_3$ ,  $(v, w) \in E \Leftrightarrow w - v \in 2A$ .

$S_{\Delta}(v_1, v_2, v_3)$  triangle.

$a := v_2 - v_1$ ,  $b := v_3 - v_2$ ,  $c := v_3 - v_1/2$  all in  $A$ .

Then  $b, c, a$  is a 3-AP in  $A$  w/

difference  $c-b=a-c$  except could be 0.

So call the  $\Delta$  trivial if they are equal.

Given  $a \in A$ ,  $k \in [n]$ , get a trivial  $\Delta$

$(k, k+a, k+2a)$ ; there are  $|A| \cdot n$  such  $\Delta$ 's,  
edge disjoint, so have to remove  $\geq 3|A| \cdot n \geq 3\epsilon n^2$   
such edges to have no  $\Delta$ .

Let  $\delta$  correspond to  $3\epsilon$  in  $\Delta$ -removal.

Follows  $t(G) \geq \delta$ , i.e. have  $\geq 27\delta n^3$  triangles.

But but there are  $\leq n^2$  trivial triangles.

So for  $n \gg 0$ , must be a nontrivial  $\Delta$ .  $\square$

Rmk Hyp. removal  $\Rightarrow$  Full Szemerédi

Nonstandard  $\Delta$ -removal

$V$  nonempty, hyperfinite.

$E_{12}, E_{23}, E_{13} \in \mathcal{L}_{V \times V}$  satisfy

$$\sum_{V^3} 1_{E_{12}}(u, v) 1_{E_{23}}(v, w) 1_{E_{13}}(u, w) dy(u, vw) = 0. \quad (+)$$

Then  $\forall \epsilon > 0 \exists \delta(\epsilon) \exists \text{hyp } F_{ij} \in V^2$  s.t.

$\mu_{V \times V}(E_{ij} \setminus F_{ij}) < \epsilon$  and

$$1_{F_{12}}(u, v) 1_{F_{23}}(v, w) 1_{F_{13}}(u, w) = 0 \quad \forall (u, v, w) \in V^3.$$

Mnstr  $\Rightarrow$  Stand Sps  $\exists \epsilon$  s.t. no  $\delta$  works.

Get finite  $G_n = (V_n, E_n)$  s.t.  $t(G_n) \leq \frac{1}{n}$  and yet...

Note:  $|V_n| \rightarrow \infty$ .

Overflow  $\Rightarrow \exists \text{hyp } G = (V, E) \text{ s.t. } t(G) \approx 0$  and yet...

Apply Mnstr to  $V$  with each  $E_{ij} = E$ :

( $t$ ) holds since the integral  $= \text{st}(t(G)) = 0$ .

Get  $F_{ij}$ 's corresponding to  $\frac{\epsilon}{6}$ .

Symmetrize:  $E' := E \cap \bigcap_{ij} (F_{ij} \cap F_{ji}')$ .

Then  $(V, E') \subseteq (V, E)$  is triangle-free.

$\mu(E \setminus E') < \epsilon$ , by property of  $G$ .  $\square$

Lemma Sps  $f \in L^2(\mathcal{L}_{V \times V}) \ominus L^2(\mathcal{L}_V \otimes \mathcal{L}_V)$ .

Then for any  $g, h \in L^2(\mathcal{L}_{V \times V})$ , we have

$$\int_{V \times V \times V} f(x, y) g(y, z) h(x, z) d\mu_{V \times V \times V}(x, y, z) = 0.$$

By an appropriate Fubini

$$\text{Pf Sketch} \stackrel{\text{by unapp}}{=} \int_V \left[ \int_{V \times V} f(x,y) \underbrace{g_z(y) h_z(x)}_{\in L^0(\mathcal{L}_v \otimes \mathcal{L}_v)} d\mu_{V \times V}(x,y) \right] d\mu_v$$

## Pf of Nonst $\Delta$ -removal

Step 1 Reduce to the case  $E_{ij} \in \mathcal{L}_v \otimes \mathcal{L}_v$ .

$$\text{Set } f_{ij} = E [1_{E_{ij}} | \mathcal{L}_v \otimes \mathcal{L}_v]$$

By lemma (3 times),

$$\int_{V \times V \times V} f_{12} f_{23} f_{13} d\mu_{V \times V \times V} = \int_{V \times V \times V} 1_{E_{12}} 1_{E_{23}} 1_{E_{13}} = 0.$$

$$G_{ij} := \{(u,v) \in V \times V : f_{ij}(u,v) \geq \frac{\epsilon}{2}\} \in \mathcal{L}_v \otimes \mathcal{L}_v.$$

Then by above,  $\int_{V \times V \times V} 1_{G_{12}} 1_{G_{23}} 1_{G_{13}} = 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Note } \mu(E_{ij} \setminus G_{ij}) &= \int_{V \times V} 1_{E_{ij}} (1 - 1_{G_{ij}}) = \int_{V \times V} f_{ij} (1 - 1_{G_{ij}}) \\ &\leq \frac{\epsilon}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

If Thm true for elements of  $\mathcal{L}_v \otimes \mathcal{L}_v$ , get

Hyp  $F_{ij} \subseteq G_{ij}$ ,  $\mu(G_{ij} \setminus F_{ij}) < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$  s.t. ...

Since  $\mu(E_{ij} \setminus F_{ij}) < \epsilon$ , done.

Step 2 Assume each  $E_{ij} \in \mathcal{L}_V \otimes \mathcal{L}_V$ .

By product measure, have elem sets  $H_{ij}$  s.t.

$$\mu(E_{ij} \Delta H_{ij}) < \frac{\epsilon}{6}.$$

Bool. alg. gen. by sides of the boxes  $\rightsquigarrow$

$V = V_1 \sqcup \dots \sqcup V_n$  finitely many hyp sets s.t.

each  $H_{ij} \subset B$  a union of boxes  $V_k \times V_\ell$ .

$$F_{ij} := \bigcup \{ V_k \times V_\ell : V_k \times V_\ell \subseteq H_{ij}, \mu(V_k \times V_\ell) > 0, \\ \mu(E_{ij} \cap (V_k \times V_\ell)) > \frac{2}{3} \mu(V_k \times V_\ell) \}.$$

Certainly hypfhnite.

Claim 1  $\mu(E_{ij} \setminus F_{ij}) < \epsilon$ .

Pf: EB  $\mu(H_{ij} \setminus F_{ij}) \leq \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ .

$$\mu((H_{ij} \setminus F_{ij}) \cap E_{ij}) \leq \frac{2}{3} \mu(H_{ij} \setminus F_{ij})$$

$$\mu((H_{ij} \setminus F_{ij}) \setminus E_{ij}) \leq \mu(H_{ij} \setminus E_{ij}) \leq \frac{\epsilon}{6}$$

$$\text{So } \mu(H_{ij} \setminus F_{ij}) \leq \frac{2}{3} \mu(H_{ij} \setminus F_{ij}) + \frac{\epsilon}{6} \quad \checkmark$$

Claim 2 (++) holds.

Spz, TAC, that there are  $(u, v, w)$  s.t.

$$(u, v) \in F_{12}, (v, w) \in F_{23}, (u, w) \in F_{13}.$$

Then  $u \in V_u, v \in V_e, w \in V_m$ .

$$\begin{aligned}(u, v) \in F_{12} &\Rightarrow \mu(E_{12} \cap (V_u \times V_e)) > \frac{2}{3}\mu(V_u \times V_e) \\ &\Rightarrow \mu(E_{12} \times V_m) > \frac{2}{3}\mu(V_u \times V_e \times V_m).\end{aligned}$$

Similarly,  $\mu(E_{23} \times V_u), \mu(E_{13} \times V_e) > \frac{2}{3} \dots$

Then  $\mu(\{(x, y, z) \in V_u \times V_e \times V_m : (x, y) \notin E_{12} \vee (y, z) \notin E_{23} \vee (x, z) \notin E_{13}\}) < \mu(V_u \times V_e \times V_m)$ ,

Contradicting assumption (t). □

## Szemeredi Regularity

Def  $(V, E)$  finite graph,  $X, Y \subseteq V$  nonempty.

$$d(X, Y) := \frac{|E \cap (X \times Y)|}{|X| \cdot |Y|} \quad \text{density}$$

$(X, Y)$  are  $\epsilon$ -pseudorandom if: whenever

$A \subseteq X, B \subseteq Y, |A| \geq \epsilon |X|, |B| \geq \epsilon |Y|$ , have

$$|d(A, B) - d(X, Y)| < \varepsilon$$

Explain intuition

$$V := V_1 \cup \dots \cup V_m.$$

$$R = \{(i, j) \in [m]^2 : V_i, V_j \text{ } \varepsilon\text{-pseudorandom}\}$$

The partition is  $\varepsilon$ -regular if

$$\sum_{(i, j) \in R} \frac{|V_i| \cdot |V_j|}{|V|^2} > 1 - \varepsilon. \quad \text{"Most pairs of points are in } \varepsilon\text{-pseudo pairs"}$$

Note: A partition into singletons is obviously  $\varepsilon$ -regular.  
But huge!

Szemerédi's Reg. Lemma  $\forall \varepsilon \exists C(\varepsilon) \forall (V, E)$

$G$  admits an  $\varepsilon$ -reg partition into  $m \leq C(\varepsilon)$  pieces.

Nonst. equivalent  $\forall \varepsilon \forall$  hyp  $(V, \mathcal{A})$   $\exists$  finite part.

$V = V_1 \cup \dots \cup V_m$  into internal sets and

$R \subseteq [m]^2$  s.t. hyp

①  $\forall (i, j) \in R, V_i, V_j$  internally  $\varepsilon$ -pseudorandom

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \sum_{(i,j) \in R} \frac{|V_i| \cdot N_{ij}}{|V|^2} > 1 - \epsilon.$$

$S \Rightarrow N_{\text{orst}}$ : transfer

$N_{\text{orst}} \Rightarrow S$ : overflow as before.

Pf of  $N_{\text{orst}}$  version: Fix  $\epsilon$ , hyp ( $\forall E$ ).

$$\text{Set } f := \mathbb{E}[1_E | \mathcal{L}_v \otimes \mathcal{L}_v].$$

Useful calculation Spz  $A, B \subseteq V$  hyp,  $\frac{|A|}{|V|}, \frac{|B|}{|V|} \neq 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } \int_{A \times B} f d(\mu_v \otimes \mu_v) &= \int_{A \times B} 1_E d\mu_{vv} \quad (\text{def of } f) \\ &= St \left( \frac{|\mathbb{E}_n(A \times B)|}{|V|^2} \right) \\ &= St \left( \frac{|\mathbb{E}_n(A \times B)|}{|A| \cdot |B|} \right) \underbrace{St \left( \frac{|A| \cdot |B|}{|V|^2} \right)}_{st(d(A, B))} \end{aligned}$$

Fix  $r > 0$  TBD. Take  $\mu_v \otimes \mu_v$ -simple  $g \leq f$

s.t.  $\int (f-g) d(\mu_V \otimes \mu_V) < r$ .

$C := \{w \in V \times V : f(w) - g(w) \geq \sqrt{r}\} \subseteq L_V \otimes L_V$ .

Then  $\mu_V \otimes \mu_V(C) < \sqrt{r}$ .

Take elem.  $D \subseteq C$  s.t.  $\mu_V \otimes \mu_V(D) < \sqrt{r}$ .

In a similar way, can assume the meas. sets  
in the def of  $g$  are elem.

Then have  $V = V_1 \sqcup \dots \sqcup V_m$  fin. part, hyp sets

s.t.  $g, 1_D$  constant on each  $V_i \times V_j$ .

$d_{ij} = \text{const value of } g \text{ on } V_i \times V_j$ .

Claim If  $\mu(V_i), \mu(V_j) > 0$  &  $(V_i \times V_j) \cap D = \emptyset$ ,

then  $V_i, V_j$   $2\sqrt{r}$ -pseudorandom. If  $w \in V_i \times V_j$ ,

Pf:  $d_{ij} \leq f(w) < d_{ij} + \sqrt{r}$  ↪  
 $\begin{array}{c} \exists \\ g \leq f \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \exists \\ w \notin C \end{array}$

Integrate over  $A \times B$ ,  $A \subseteq V_i$ ,  $B \subseteq V_j$ ,

$|A| \geq 2\sqrt{r} |V_i|$ ,  $|B| \geq 2\sqrt{r} |V_j|$ :

$$d_{ij} \operatorname{st} \left( \frac{|A| \cdot |B|}{|V|^2} \right) \leq \operatorname{st}(d(A, B)) \operatorname{st} \left( \frac{|A| \cdot |B|}{|V|^2} \right) \leq (d_{ij} + \sqrt{r}) \left( \frac{|A| \cdot |B|}{|V|^2} \right)$$

Legit since  $\frac{|A|}{|V|} = \frac{|A|}{|V_i|} \cdot \frac{|V_i|}{|V|} \neq 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore |d(A, B) - d(V_i, V_j)| &\leq |d(A, B) - d_{ij}| + |d_{ij} - d(V_i, V_j)| \\ &< 2\sqrt{r} \quad (\text{use } A = V_i, B = V_j) \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

Take  $r < \left(\frac{\epsilon}{2}\right)^2$ .

Claim 2 The partition is  $\epsilon$ -regular.

PF:  $R := \{(i, j) : V_i, V_j \text{ } \epsilon\text{-pseudorandom}\}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } S &= \left( \sum_{(i, j) \in R} \frac{|V_i| \cdot |V_j|}{|V|^2} \right) = \mu_{V \times V} \left( \bigcup_{(i, j) \in R} V_i \times V_j \right) \\ &\geq \mu_{V \times V} ((V \times V) \setminus D) \quad (\text{Claim 1}) \\ &> 1 - \sqrt{r} \\ &> 1 - \epsilon \quad \square \end{aligned}$$