

Minimum degree and the graph removal lemma

Yuval Wigderson (Stanford)

Joint with Jacob Fox

June 30, 2021

Outline

Minimum degree conditions

The graph removal lemma

Minimum degree conditions and the graph removal lemma

Conclusion

Outline

Minimum degree conditions

The graph removal lemma

Minimum degree conditions and the graph removal lemma

Conclusion

Minimum degree conditions for triangle-free graphs

Let G be a triangle-free graph with n vertices and min degree $\delta(G)$.

Minimum degree conditions for triangle-free graphs

Let G be a triangle-free graph with n vertices and min degree $\delta(G)$.

Theorem (Mantel)

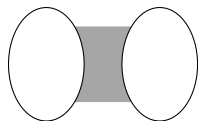
If $\delta(G) > \frac{1}{2}n$, then G cannot exist.

Minimum degree conditions for triangle-free graphs

Let G be a triangle-free graph with n vertices and min degree $\delta(G)$.

Theorem (Mantel)

If $\delta(G) > \frac{1}{2}n$, then G cannot exist.

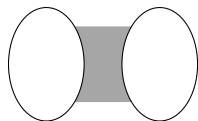


Minimum degree conditions for triangle-free graphs

Let G be a triangle-free graph with n vertices and min degree $\delta(G)$.

Theorem (Mantel)

If $\delta(G) > \frac{1}{2}n$, then G cannot exist.



Theorem (Andrásfai-Erdős-Sós)

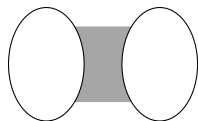
If $\delta(G) > \frac{2}{5}n$, then G is bipartite.

Minimum degree conditions for triangle-free graphs

Let G be a triangle-free graph with n vertices and min degree $\delta(G)$.

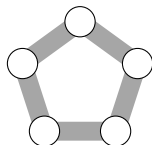
Theorem (Mantel)

If $\delta(G) > \frac{1}{2}n$, then G cannot exist.



Theorem (Andrásfai-Erdős-Sós)

If $\delta(G) > \frac{2}{5}n$, then G is bipartite.

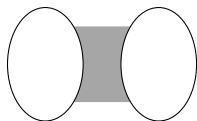


Minimum degree conditions for triangle-free graphs

Let G be a triangle-free graph with n vertices and min degree $\delta(G)$.

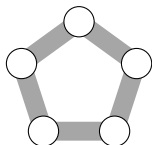
Theorem (Mantel)

If $\delta(G) > \frac{1}{2}n$, then G cannot exist.



Theorem (Andrásfai-Erdős-Sós)

If $\delta(G) > \frac{2}{5}n$, then G is a subgraph of .

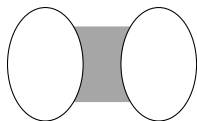


Minimum degree conditions for triangle-free graphs

Let G be a triangle-free graph with n vertices and min degree $\delta(G)$.

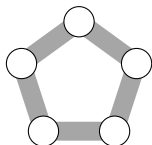
Theorem (Mantel)

If $\delta(G) > \frac{1}{2}n$, then G cannot exist.



Theorem (Andrásfai-Erdős-Sós)

If $\delta(G) > \frac{2}{5}n$, then G is a subgraph of C_5 .



Theorem (Häggkvist)

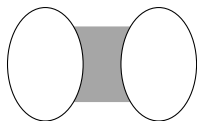
If $\delta(G) > \frac{3}{8}n$, then G is a subgraph of C_5 or C_6 .

Minimum degree conditions for triangle-free graphs


Let G be a triangle-free graph with n vertices and min degree $\delta(G)$.

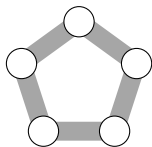
Theorem (Mantel)

If $\delta(G) > \frac{1}{2}n$, then G cannot exist.





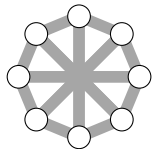
Theorem (Andrásfai-Erdős-Sós)

If $\delta(G) > \frac{2}{5}n$, then G is a subgraph of .



Theorem (Häggkvist)

If $\delta(G) > \frac{3}{8}n$, then G is a subgraph of  or .

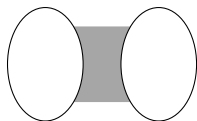


Minimum degree conditions for triangle-free graphs


Let G be a triangle-free graph with n vertices and min degree $\delta(G)$.

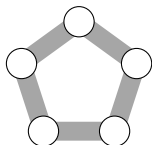
Theorem (Mantel)

If $\delta(G) > \frac{1}{2}n$, then G cannot exist.





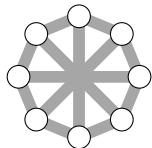
Theorem (Andrásfai-Erdős-Sós)

If $\delta(G) > \frac{2}{5}n$, then G is a subgraph of .



Theorem (Häggkvist)

If $\delta(G) > \frac{3}{8}n$, then G is a subgraph of  or .



Jin found seven more thresholds for seven more structures.

The taxonomy of dense triangle-free graphs



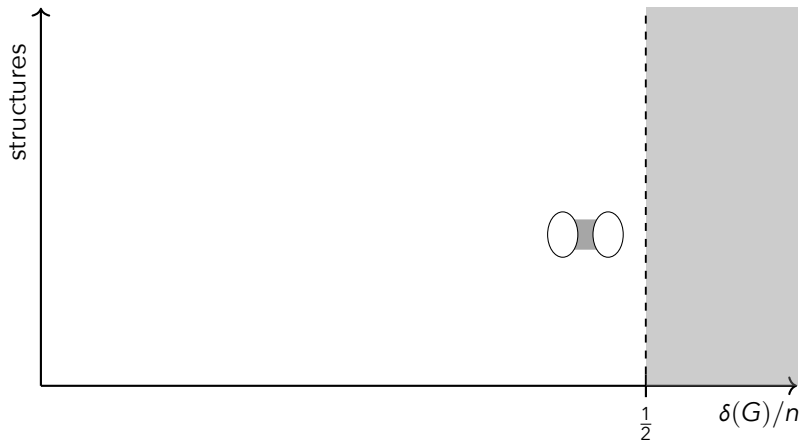
The taxonomy of dense triangle-free graphs



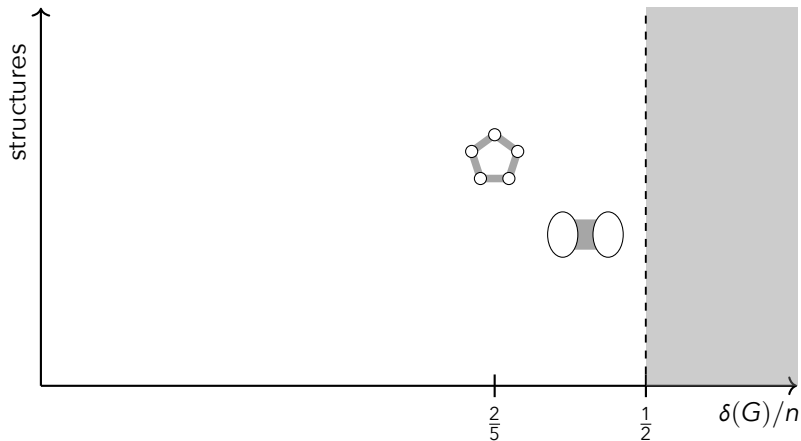
The taxonomy of dense triangle-free graphs



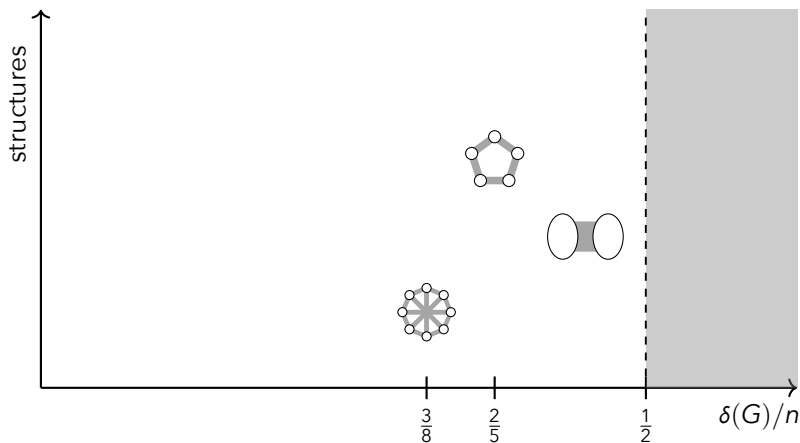
The taxonomy of dense triangle-free graphs



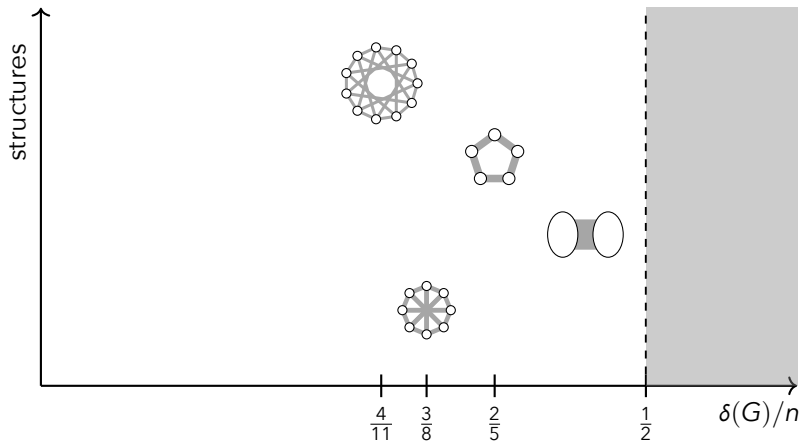
The taxonomy of dense triangle-free graphs



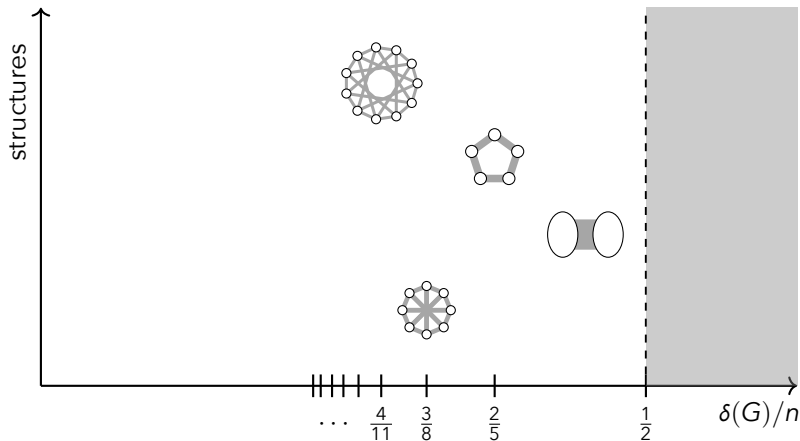
The taxonomy of dense triangle-free graphs



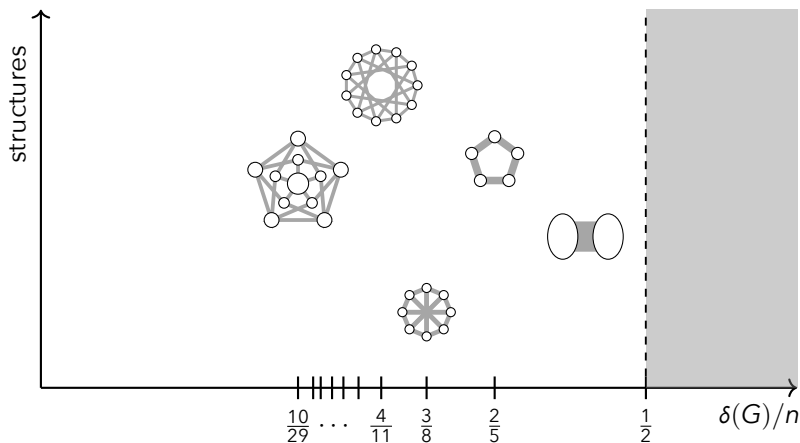
The taxonomy of dense triangle-free graphs



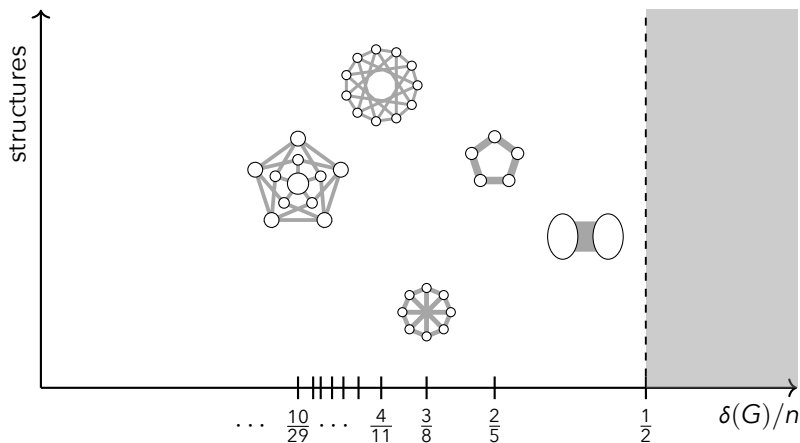
The taxonomy of dense triangle-free graphs



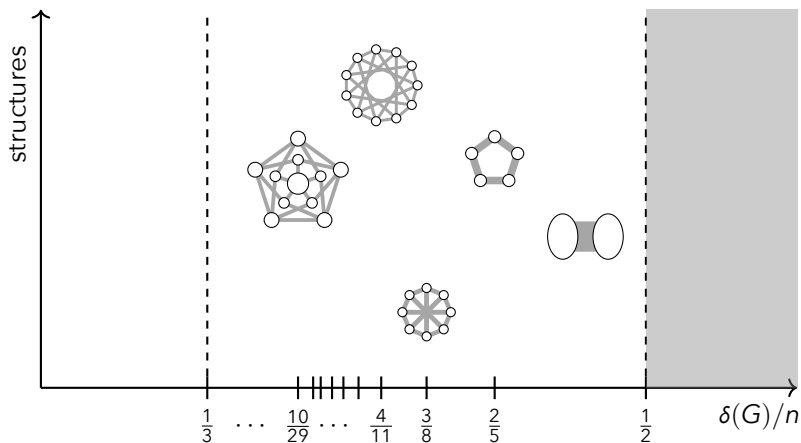
The taxonomy of dense triangle-free graphs



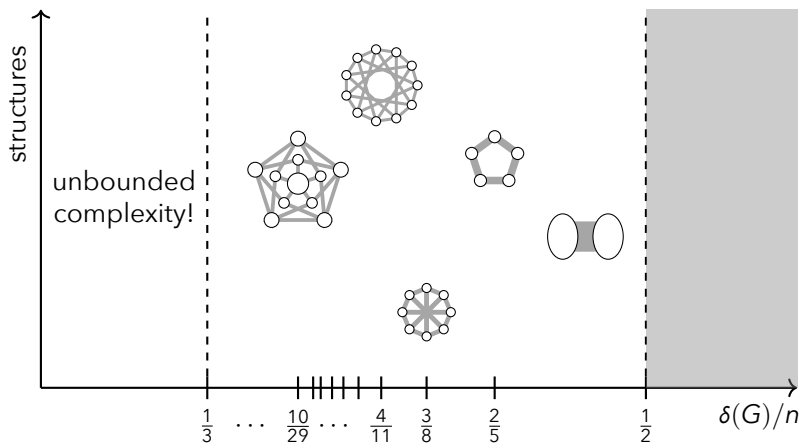
The taxonomy of dense triangle-free graphs



The taxonomy of dense triangle-free graphs



The taxonomy of dense triangle-free graphs



What happens at $\frac{1}{3}$?

What happens at $\frac{1}{3}$?

Theorem (Erdős-Hajnal-Simonovits)

For every $\alpha > 0$ and $C > 0$, there exists a triangle-free graph G with $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} - \alpha)n$ and $\chi(G) > C$.

What happens at $\frac{1}{3}$?

Theorem (Erdős–Hajnal–Simonovits)

For every $\alpha > 0$ and $C > 0$, there exists a triangle-free graph G with $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} - \alpha)n$ and $\chi(G) > C$.

Theorem (Thomassen)

For every $\alpha > 0$, there exists $C > 0$ such that any triangle-free graph G with $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} + \alpha)n$ has $\chi(G) < C$.

What happens at $\frac{1}{3}$?

Theorem (Erdős–Hajnal–Simonovits)

For every $\alpha > 0$ and $C > 0$, there exists a triangle-free graph G with $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} - \alpha)n$ and $\chi(G) > C$.

Theorem (Thomassen)

For every $\alpha > 0$, there exists $C > 0$ such that any triangle-free graph G with $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} + \alpha)n$ has $\chi(G) < C$.

Theorem (Łuczak)

For every $\alpha > 0$, there exists a **finite** set \mathcal{F} of triangle-free graphs such that any triangle-free graph G with $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} + \alpha)n$ is a **subgraph of a blowup of some $F \in \mathcal{F}$** .

What happens at $\frac{1}{3}$?

Theorem (Erdős–Hajnal–Simonovits)

For every $\alpha > 0$ and $C > 0$, there exists a triangle-free graph G with $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} - \alpha)n$ and $\chi(G) > C$.

Theorem (Thomassen)

For every $\alpha > 0$, there exists $C > 0$ such that any triangle-free graph G with $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} + \alpha)n$ has $\chi(G) < C$.

The **chromatic threshold** $\delta_\chi(K_3)$ equals $\frac{1}{3}$.

Theorem (Łuczak)

For every $\alpha > 0$, there exists a **finite** set \mathcal{F} of triangle-free graphs such that any triangle-free graph G with $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} + \alpha)n$ is a **subgraph of a blowup of some $F \in \mathcal{F}$** .

What happens at $\frac{1}{3}$?

Theorem (Erdős–Hajnal–Simonovits)

For every $\alpha > 0$ and $C > 0$, there exists a triangle-free graph G with $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} - \alpha)n$ and $\chi(G) > C$.

Theorem (Thomassen)

For every $\alpha > 0$, there exists $C > 0$ such that any triangle-free graph G with $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} + \alpha)n$ has $\chi(G) < C$.

The **chromatic threshold** $\delta_\chi(K_3)$ equals $\frac{1}{3}$.

Theorem (Łuczak)

For every $\alpha > 0$, there exists a **finite** set \mathcal{F} of triangle-free graphs such that any triangle-free graph G with $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} + \alpha)n$ is a **subgraph of a blowup of some $F \in \mathcal{F}$** .

The **homomorphism threshold** $\delta_{\text{hom}}(K_3)$ equals $\frac{1}{3}$.

Outline

Minimum degree conditions

The graph removal lemma

Minimum degree conditions and the graph removal lemma

Conclusion

Graphs with few triangles

Graphs with few triangles

Can we say anything if we only assume that G has **few** triangles?

Graphs with few triangles

Can we say anything if we only assume that G has few triangles?

Triangle removal lemma (Ruzsa-Szemerédi)

For every $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists $\rho > 0$ such that if G has $< \rho n^3$ triangles, then it can be made triangle-free by removing $< \varepsilon n^2$ edges.

Graphs with few triangles

Can we say anything if we only assume that G has few triangles?

Triangle removal lemma (Ruzsa-Szemerédi)

For every $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists $\rho > 0$ such that if G has $< \rho n^3$ triangles, then it can be made triangle-free by removing $< \varepsilon n^2$ edges.

“The only way to make a graph with few triangles is to add few edges to a triangle-free graph.”

Graphs with few triangles

Can we say anything if we only assume that G has **few** triangles?

Triangle removal lemma (Ruzsa-Szemerédi)

For every $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists $\rho > 0$ such that if G has $< \rho n^3$ triangles, then it can be made triangle-free by removing $< \varepsilon n^2$ edges.

“The only way to make a graph with **few** triangles is to add **few** edges to a triangle-free graph.”

Applications to number theory, computer science, graph theory,...

Graphs with few triangles

Can we say anything if we only assume that G has **few** triangles?

Triangle removal lemma (Ruzsa-Szemerédi)

For every $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists $\rho > 0$ such that if G has $< \rho n^3$ triangles, then it can be made triangle-free by removing $< \varepsilon n^2$ edges.

“The only way to make a graph with **few** triangles is to add **few** edges to a triangle-free graph.”

Applications to number theory, computer science, graph theory,...

Despite the simple statement, all known proofs are **hard**!

Graphs with few triangles

Can we say anything if we only assume that G has **few** triangles?

Triangle removal lemma (Ruzsa-Szemerédi)

For every $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists $\rho > 0$ such that if G has $< \rho n^3$ triangles, then it can be made triangle-free by removing $< \varepsilon n^2$ edges.

“The only way to make a graph with **few** triangles is to add **few** edges to a triangle-free graph.”

Applications to number theory, computer science, graph theory,...

Despite the simple statement, all known proofs are **hard**!

Theorem (Alon-Duke-Lefmann-Rödl-Yuster, Füredi)

*For every H and $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists $\rho > 0$ such that if G has $< \rho n^{|V(H)|}$ **copies of H** , then it can be made H -free by removing $< \varepsilon n^2$ **edges**.*

Bounds for the graph removal lemma

Graph removal lemma

For every H and $\epsilon > 0$, there exists $\rho > 0$ such that if G has $< \rho n^{|V(H)|}$ copies of H , then it can be made H -free by removing $< \epsilon n^2$ edges.

Bounds for the graph removal lemma

Graph removal lemma

For every H and $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists $\rho > 0$ such that if G has $< \rho n^{|V(H)|}$ copies of H , then it can be made H -free by removing $< \varepsilon n^2$ edges.

Let $\rho(\varepsilon, H)$ be the largest possible value of ρ .

Bounds for the graph removal lemma

Graph removal lemma

For every H and $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists $\rho > 0$ such that if G has $< \rho n^{|V(H)|}$ copies of H , then it can be made H -free by removing $< \varepsilon n^2$ edges.

Let $\rho(\varepsilon, H)$ be the largest possible value of ρ .

Original proofs

$$\rho(\varepsilon, H)^{-1} \leq 2^{2^{\dots^{2^2}}} \} \varepsilon^{-C_H}$$

Bounds for the graph removal lemma

Graph removal lemma

For every H and $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists $\rho > 0$ such that if G has $< \rho n^{|V(H)|}$ copies of H , then it can be made H -free by removing $< \varepsilon n^2$ edges.

Let $\rho(\varepsilon, H)$ be the largest possible value of ρ .

Theorem (Fox)

$$\rho(\varepsilon, H)^{-1} \leq 2^{2^{\dots^{2^2}}} \left. \vphantom{2^{2^{\dots^{2^2}}}} \right\} C_H \log \frac{1}{\varepsilon}$$

Bounds for the graph removal lemma

Graph removal lemma

For every H and $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists $\rho > 0$ such that if G has $< \rho n^{|V(H)|}$ copies of H , then it can be made H -free by removing $< \varepsilon n^2$ edges.

Let $\rho(\varepsilon, H)$ be the largest possible value of ρ .

Theorem (Fox)

$$\rho(\varepsilon, H)^{-1} \leq 2^{2^{\dots^{2^2}}} \left. \vphantom{2^{2^{\dots^{2^2}}}} \right\} C_H \log \frac{1}{\varepsilon}$$

Theorem (Ruzsa-Szemerédi, Alon)

$$\rho(\varepsilon, H)^{-1} \geq \varepsilon^{-c_H \log \frac{1}{\varepsilon}}$$

for non-bipartite H .

Bounds for the graph removal lemma

Graph removal lemma

For every H and $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists $\rho > 0$ such that if G has $< \rho n^{|V(H)|}$ copies of H , then it can be made H -free by removing $< \varepsilon n^2$ edges.

Let $\rho(\varepsilon, H)$ be the largest possible value of ρ .

Theorem (Fox)

$$\rho(\varepsilon, H)^{-1} \leq 2^{2^{\dots^{2^2}}} \left. \vphantom{2^{2^{\dots^{2^2}}}} \right\} C_H \log \frac{1}{\varepsilon}$$

Theorem (Ruzsa-Szemerédi, Alon)

$$\rho(\varepsilon, H)^{-1} \geq \varepsilon^{-c_H \log \frac{1}{\varepsilon}}$$

for non-bipartite H .

Upshot: $\rho(\varepsilon, H)$ is **super-polynomial** in ε for non-bipartite H .

Outline

Minimum degree conditions

The graph removal lemma

Minimum degree conditions and the graph removal lemma

Conclusion

Triangle removal with high minimum degree

Triangle removal with high minimum degree

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} + \alpha)n$ and G has $< \rho n^3$ triangles, then G can be made triangle-free by deleting $< \frac{3}{\alpha} \rho n^2$ edges.

Triangle removal with high minimum degree

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} + \alpha)n$ and G has $< \rho n^3$ triangles, then G can be made triangle-free by deleting $< \frac{3}{\alpha} \rho n^2$ edges.

In a sufficiently dense graph, the removal lemma has **linear** bounds!

Triangle removal with high minimum degree

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} + \alpha)n$ and G has $< \rho n^3$ triangles, then G can be made triangle-free by deleting $< \frac{3}{\alpha} \rho n^2$ edges.

In a sufficiently dense graph, the removal lemma has **linear** bounds!

Proof.

Consider any triangle $\{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$ in G . We have $|N(v_i)| > (\frac{1}{3} + \alpha)n$.

Triangle removal with high minimum degree

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} + \alpha)n$ and G has $< \rho n^3$ triangles, then G can be made triangle-free by deleting $< \frac{3}{\alpha} \rho n^2$ edges.

In a sufficiently dense graph, the removal lemma has **linear** bounds!

Proof.

Consider any triangle $\{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$ in G . We have $|N(v_i)| > (\frac{1}{3} + \alpha)n$. By pigeonhole, $|N(v_i) \cap N(v_j)| > \alpha n$ for some i, j .

Triangle removal with high minimum degree

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} + \alpha)n$ and G has $< \rho n^3$ triangles, then G can be made triangle-free by deleting $< \frac{3}{\alpha} \rho n^2$ edges.

In a sufficiently dense graph, the removal lemma has **linear** bounds!

Proof.

Consider any triangle $\{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$ in G . We have $|N(v_i)| > (\frac{1}{3} + \alpha)n$.
By pigeonhole, $|N(v_i) \cap N(v_j)| > \alpha n$ for some i, j .
So $v_i v_j$ lies in $> \alpha n$ triangles.

Triangle removal with high minimum degree

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} + \alpha)n$ and G has $< \rho n^3$ triangles, then G can be made triangle-free by deleting $< \frac{3}{\alpha} \rho n^2$ edges.

In a sufficiently dense graph, the removal lemma has **linear** bounds!

Proof.

Consider any triangle $\{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$ in G . We have $|N(v_i)| > (\frac{1}{3} + \alpha)n$.

By pigeonhole, $|N(v_i) \cap N(v_j)| > \alpha n$ for some i, j .

So $v_i v_j$ lies in $> \alpha n$ triangles.

So every triangle contains a **popular** edge, one lying in $> \alpha n$ triangles. Deleting all popular edges destroys all triangles.

Triangle removal with high minimum degree

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} + \alpha)n$ and G has $< \rho n^3$ triangles, then G can be made triangle-free by deleting $< \frac{3}{\alpha} \rho n^2$ edges.

In a sufficiently dense graph, the removal lemma has **linear** bounds!

Proof.

Consider any triangle $\{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$ in G . We have $|N(v_i)| > (\frac{1}{3} + \alpha)n$.

By pigeonhole, $|N(v_i) \cap N(v_j)| > \alpha n$ for some i, j .

So $v_i v_j$ lies in $> \alpha n$ triangles.

So every triangle contains a **popular** edge, one lying in $> \alpha n$ triangles. Deleting all popular edges destroys all triangles.

t popular edges yield $> \alpha n t / 3$ triangles.

Triangle removal with high minimum degree

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} + \alpha)n$ and G has $< \rho n^3$ triangles, then G can be made triangle-free by deleting $< \frac{3}{\alpha} \rho n^2$ edges.

In a sufficiently dense graph, the removal lemma has **linear** bounds!

Proof.

Consider any triangle $\{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$ in G . We have $|N(v_i)| > (\frac{1}{3} + \alpha)n$.

By pigeonhole, $|N(v_i) \cap N(v_j)| > \alpha n$ for some i, j .

So $v_i v_j$ lies in $> \alpha n$ triangles.

So every triangle contains a **popular** edge, one lying in $> \alpha n$ triangles. Deleting all popular edges destroys all triangles.

t popular edges yield $> \alpha n t / 3$ triangles. So $\alpha n t / 3 < \rho n^3$

Triangle removal with high minimum degree

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} + \alpha)n$ and G has $< \rho n^3$ triangles, then G can be made triangle-free by deleting $< \frac{3}{\alpha} \rho n^2$ edges.

In a sufficiently dense graph, the removal lemma has **linear** bounds!

Proof.

Consider any triangle $\{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$ in G . We have $|N(v_i)| > (\frac{1}{3} + \alpha)n$.

By pigeonhole, $|N(v_i) \cap N(v_j)| > \alpha n$ for some i, j .

So $v_i v_j$ lies in $> \alpha n$ triangles.

So every triangle contains a **popular** edge, one lying in $> \alpha n$ triangles. Deleting all popular edges destroys all triangles.

t popular edges yield $> \alpha n t / 3$ triangles. So $\alpha n t / 3 < \rho n^3$, and therefore $t < \frac{3}{\alpha} \rho n^2$. □

Triangle removal with high minimum degree

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} + \alpha)n$ and G has $< \rho n^3$ triangles, then G can be made triangle-free by deleting $< \frac{3}{\alpha} \rho n^2$ edges.

In a sufficiently dense graph, the removal lemma has **linear** bounds!

Proof.

Consider any triangle $\{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$ in G . We have $|N(v_i)| > (\frac{1}{3} + \alpha)n$.

By pigeonhole, $|N(v_i) \cap N(v_j)| > \alpha n$ for some i, j .

So $v_i v_j$ lies in $> \alpha n$ triangles.

So every triangle contains a **popular** edge, one lying in $> \alpha n$ triangles. Deleting all popular edges destroys all triangles.

t popular edges yield $> \alpha n t / 3$ triangles. So $\alpha n t / 3 < \rho n^3$, and therefore $t < \frac{3}{\alpha} \rho n^2$. □

The proof only uses simple averaging arguments!

Is $\frac{1}{3}$ tight?

Can we still get linear bounds with a weaker condition on $\delta(G)$?

Is $\frac{1}{3}$ tight?

Can we still get linear bounds with a weaker condition on $\delta(G)$? **No.**

Theorem (Fox-W.)

For any $\alpha > 0$, there exists G with $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} - \alpha)n$ such that deleting all triangles in G is roughly as hard as it is for arbitrary graphs.

Is $\frac{1}{3}$ tight?

Can we still get linear bounds with a weaker condition on $\delta(G)$? **No.**

Theorem (Fox-W.)

For any $\alpha > 0$, there exists G with $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} - \alpha)n$ such that deleting all triangles in G is roughly as hard as it is for arbitrary graphs.

Proof.

Let G_0 be a “hard” graph for the triangle removal lemma.



Is $\frac{1}{3}$ tight?

Can we still get linear bounds with a weaker condition on $\delta(G)$? **No.**

Theorem (Fox-W.)

For any $\alpha > 0$, there exists G with $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} - \alpha)n$ such that deleting all triangles in G is roughly as hard as it is for arbitrary graphs.

Proof.

Let G_0 be a “hard” graph for the triangle removal lemma. We may assume G_0 is tripartite.



Is $\frac{1}{3}$ tight?

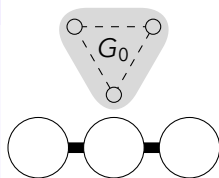
Can we still get linear bounds with a weaker condition on $\delta(G)$? **No.**

Theorem (Fox-W.)

For any $\alpha > 0$, there exists G with $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} - \alpha)n$ such that deleting all triangles in G is roughly as hard as it is for arbitrary graphs.

Proof.

Let G_0 be a “hard” graph for the triangle removal lemma. We may assume G_0 is tripartite. Add to G_0 a huge blowup of the path P_2 .



Is $\frac{1}{3}$ tight?

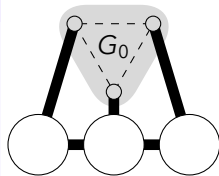
Can we still get linear bounds with a weaker condition on $\delta(G)$? **No.**

Theorem (Fox-W.)

For any $\alpha > 0$, there exists G with $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} - \alpha)n$ such that deleting all triangles in G is roughly as hard as it is for arbitrary graphs.

Proof.

Let G_0 be a “hard” graph for the triangle removal lemma. We may assume G_0 is tripartite. Add to G_0 a **huge** blowup of the path P_2 .



Is $\frac{1}{3}$ tight?

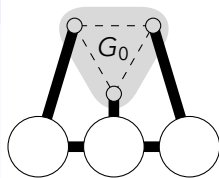
Can we still get linear bounds with a weaker condition on $\delta(G)$? **No.**

Theorem (Fox-W.)

For any $\alpha > 0$, there exists G with $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} - \alpha)n$ such that deleting all triangles in G is roughly as hard as it is for arbitrary graphs.

Proof.

Let G_0 be a “hard” graph for the triangle removal lemma. We may assume G_0 is tripartite. Add to G_0 a **huge** blowup of the path P_2 . G has minimum degree close to $n/3$, and it is hard to make it triangle-free. \square



Is $\frac{1}{3}$ tight?

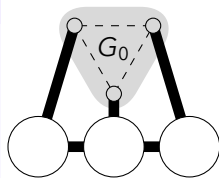
Can we still get linear bounds with a weaker condition on $\delta(G)$? **No.**

Theorem (Fox-W.)

For any $\alpha > 0$, there exists G with $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} - \alpha)n$ such that deleting all triangles in G is roughly as hard as it is for arbitrary graphs.

Proof.

Let G_0 be a “hard” graph for the triangle removal lemma. We may assume G_0 is tripartite. Add to G_0 a **huge** blowup of the path P_2 . G has minimum degree close to $n/3$, and it is hard to make it triangle-free. \square



There are **linear** bounds in the triangle removal lemma if $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} + \alpha)n$, but **super-polynomial** is necessary if we only assume $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} - \alpha)n$.

Is $\frac{1}{3}$ tight?

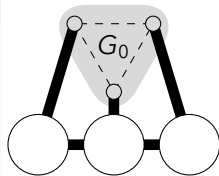
Can we still get linear bounds with a weaker condition on $\delta(G)$? **No.**

Theorem (Fox-W.)

For any $\alpha > 0$, there exists G with $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} - \alpha)n$ such that deleting all triangles in G is roughly as hard as it is for arbitrary graphs.

Proof.

Let G_0 be a “hard” graph for the triangle removal lemma. We may assume G_0 is tripartite. Add to G_0 a **huge** blowup of the path P_2 . G has minimum degree close to $n/3$, and it is hard to make it triangle-free. \square



There are **linear** bounds in the triangle removal lemma if $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} + \alpha)n$, but **super-polynomial** is necessary if we only assume $\delta(G) > (\frac{1}{3} - \alpha)n$.

$\frac{1}{3}$ is a **threshold** for bounds in the triangle removal lemma.

Three thresholds

Three thresholds

Definition

The **polynomial removal threshold** $\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(H)$ is the infimum of δ such that the H removal lemma has polynomial bounds if $\delta(G) > \delta n$.

Three thresholds

Definition

The **polynomial removal threshold** $\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(H)$ is the infimum of δ such that the H removal lemma has polynomial bounds if $\delta(G) > \delta n$.

Earlier we saw the **chromatic threshold** $\delta_x(H)$ and the **homomorphism threshold** $\delta_{\text{hom}}(H)$.

These are the infimum of δ such that an H -free graph with $\delta(G) > \delta n$ has **bounded chromatic number** or **bounded "structure"**.

Three thresholds

Definition

The **polynomial removal threshold** $\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(H)$ is the infimum of δ such that the H removal lemma has polynomial bounds if $\delta(G) > \delta n$.

Earlier we saw the **chromatic threshold** $\delta_\chi(H)$ and the **homomorphism threshold** $\delta_{\text{hom}}(H)$.

These are the infimum of δ such that an H -free graph with $\delta(G) > \delta n$ has **bounded chromatic number** or **bounded "structure"**.

H	$\delta_\chi(H)$	$\delta_{\text{hom}}(H)$	$\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(H)$
K_3	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$

Three thresholds

Definition

The **polynomial removal threshold** $\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(H)$ is the infimum of δ such that the H removal lemma has polynomial bounds if $\delta(G) > \delta n$.

Earlier we saw the **chromatic threshold** $\delta_\chi(H)$ and the **homomorphism threshold** $\delta_{\text{hom}}(H)$.

These are the infimum of δ such that an H -free graph with $\delta(G) > \delta n$ has **bounded chromatic number** or **bounded "structure"**.

H	$\delta_\chi(H)$	$\delta_{\text{hom}}(H)$	$\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(H)$
K_3	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$
K_r	$\frac{2r-5}{2r-3}$	$\frac{2r-5}{2r-3}$	$\frac{2r-5}{2r-3}$

Three thresholds

Definition

The **polynomial removal threshold** $\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(H)$ is the infimum of δ such that the H removal lemma has polynomial bounds if $\delta(G) > \delta n$.

Earlier we saw the **chromatic threshold** $\delta_\chi(H)$ and the **homomorphism threshold** $\delta_{\text{hom}}(H)$.

These are the infimum of δ such that an H -free graph with $\delta(G) > \delta n$ has **bounded chromatic number** or **bounded "structure"**.

H	$\delta_\chi(H)$	$\delta_{\text{hom}}(H)$	$\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(H)$
K_3	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$
K_r	$\frac{2r-5}{2r-3}$	$\frac{2r-5}{2r-3}$	$\frac{2r-5}{2r-3}$
$K_{2,2,2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{3}$

Three thresholds

Definition

The **polynomial removal threshold** $\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(H)$ is the infimum of δ such that the H removal lemma has polynomial bounds if $\delta(G) > \delta n$.

Earlier we saw the **chromatic threshold** $\delta_x(H)$ and the **homomorphism threshold** $\delta_{\text{hom}}(H)$.

These are the infimum of δ such that an H -free graph with $\delta(G) > \delta n$ has **bounded chromatic number** or **bounded "structure"**.

H	$\delta_x(H)$	$\delta_{\text{hom}}(H)$	$\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(H)$
K_3	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$
K_r	$\frac{2r-5}{2r-3}$	$\frac{2r-5}{2r-3}$	$\frac{2r-5}{2r-3}$
$K_{2,2,2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{3}$
$C_k, k \geq 5$ odd	0	$[0, \frac{1}{k}]$	$[\frac{1}{k}, \frac{1}{2}]$

Three thresholds

Definition

The **polynomial removal threshold** $\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(H)$ is the infimum of δ such that the H removal lemma has polynomial bounds if $\delta(G) > \delta n$.

Earlier we saw the **chromatic threshold** $\delta_\chi(H)$ and the **homomorphism threshold** $\delta_{\text{hom}}(H)$.

These are the infimum of δ such that an H -free graph with $\delta(G) > \delta n$ has **bounded chromatic number** or **bounded "structure"**.

H	$\delta_\chi(H)$	$\delta_{\text{hom}}(H)$	$\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(H)$
K_3	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$
K_r	$\frac{2r-5}{2r-3}$	$\frac{2r-5}{2r-3}$	$\frac{2r-5}{2r-3}$
$K_{2,2,2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{3}$
$C_k, k \geq 5$ odd	0	$[0, \frac{1}{k}]$	$[\frac{1}{k}, \frac{1}{2}]$
$\chi(H) = \omega(H) = r$	$\left\{ \frac{r-3}{r-2}, \frac{2r-5}{2r-3}, \frac{r-2}{r-1} \right\}$	$[\delta_\chi(H), \frac{r-2}{r-1}]$	$\frac{2r-5}{2r-3}$

Proof sketch: linear bounds for K_r removal

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > (\frac{2r-5}{2r-3} + \alpha)n$ and G has $< \rho n^r$ copies of K_r , then G can be made K_r -free by deleting $< c_{\alpha,r} \rho n^2$ edges.

Proof sketch: linear bounds for K_r removal

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > (\frac{2r-5}{2r-3} + \alpha)n$ and G has $< \rho n^r$ copies of K_r , then G can be made K_r -free by deleting $< c_{\alpha,r} \rho n^2$ edges.

As in the case $r = 3$, it suffices to prove that every copy of K_r contains a **popular edge**, i.e. an edge in $> c_{\alpha,r} n^{r-2}$ copies of K_r .

Proof sketch: linear bounds for K_r removal

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > (\frac{2r-5}{2r-3} + \alpha)n$ and G has $< \rho n^r$ copies of K_r , then G can be made K_r -free by deleting $< c_{\alpha,r} \rho n^2$ edges.

As in the case $r = 3$, it suffices to prove that every copy of K_r contains a **popular edge**, i.e. an edge in $> c_{\alpha,r} n^{r-2}$ copies of K_r .
For simplicity, let $r = 4$ and $\delta(G) > (\frac{3}{5} + \alpha)n$.

Proof sketch: linear bounds for K_r removal

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > (\frac{2r-5}{2r-3} + \alpha)n$ and G has $< \rho n^r$ copies of K_r , then G can be made K_r -free by deleting $< c_{\alpha,r} \rho n^2$ edges.

As in the case $r = 3$, it suffices to prove that every copy of K_r contains a **popular edge**, i.e. an edge in $> c_{\alpha,r} n^{r-2}$ copies of K_r .

For simplicity, let $r = 4$ and $\delta(G) > (\frac{3}{5} + \alpha)n$. Fix a K_4 in G , v_1, \dots, v_4 .

Proof sketch: linear bounds for K_r removal

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > (\frac{2r-5}{2r-3} + \alpha)n$ and G has $< \rho n^r$ copies of K_r , then G can be made K_r -free by deleting $< c_{\alpha,r} \rho n^2$ edges.

As in the case $r = 3$, it suffices to prove that every copy of K_r contains a **popular edge**, i.e. an edge in $> c_{\alpha,r} n^{r-2}$ copies of K_r .

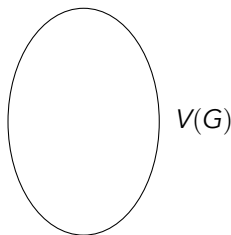
For simplicity, let $r = 4$ and $\delta(G) > (\frac{3}{5} + \alpha)n$. Fix a K_4 in G , v_1, \dots, v_4 .

$v_1 \bullet$

$v_2 \bullet$

$v_3 \bullet$

$v_4 \bullet$



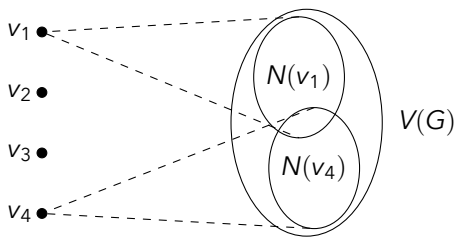
Proof sketch: linear bounds for K_r removal

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > \left(\frac{2r-5}{2r-3} + \alpha\right)n$ and G has $< \rho n^r$ copies of K_r , then G can be made K_r -free by deleting $< c_{\alpha,r} \rho n^2$ edges.

As in the case $r = 3$, it suffices to prove that every copy of K_r contains a **popular edge**, i.e. an edge in $> c_{\alpha,r} n^{r-2}$ copies of K_r .

For simplicity, let $r = 4$ and $\delta(G) > \left(\frac{3}{5} + \alpha\right)n$. Fix a K_4 in G , v_1, \dots, v_4 .



Proof sketch: linear bounds for K_r removal

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > (\frac{2r-5}{2r-3} + \alpha)n$ and G has $< \rho n^r$ copies of K_r , then G can be made K_r -free by deleting $< c_{\alpha,r} \rho n^2$ edges.

As in the case $r = 3$, it suffices to prove that every copy of K_r contains a **popular edge**, i.e. an edge in $> c_{\alpha,r} n^{r-2}$ copies of K_r .

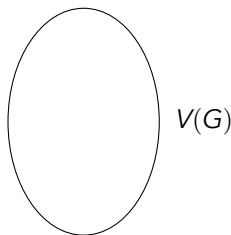
For simplicity, let $r = 4$ and $\delta(G) > (\frac{3}{5} + \alpha)n$. Fix a K_4 in G , v_1, \dots, v_4 .

$v_1 \bullet$

$v_2 \bullet$

$v_3 \bullet$

$v_4 \bullet$



$$\text{number of edges} > 4 \cdot (\frac{3}{5} + \alpha)n > \frac{12}{5}n = (2 + \frac{2}{5})n$$

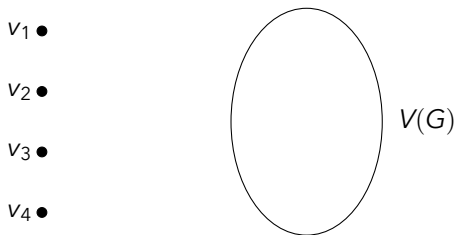
Proof sketch: linear bounds for K_r removal

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > (\frac{2r-5}{2r-3} + \alpha)n$ and G has $< \rho n^r$ copies of K_r , then G can be made K_r -free by deleting $< c_{\alpha,r} \rho n^2$ edges.

As in the case $r = 3$, it suffices to prove that every copy of K_r contains a **popular edge**, i.e. an edge in $> c_{\alpha,r} n^{r-2}$ copies of K_r .

For simplicity, let $r = 4$ and $\delta(G) > (\frac{3}{5} + \alpha)n$. Fix a K_4 in G , v_1, \dots, v_4 .



number of edges $> 4 \cdot (\frac{3}{5} + \alpha)n > \frac{12}{5}n = (2 + \frac{2}{5})n$
many vertices on the right have ≥ 3 neighbors on the left

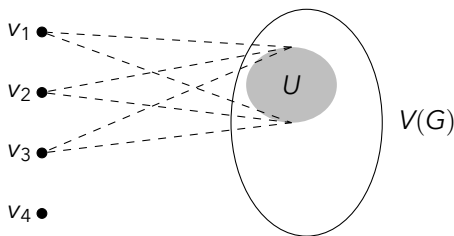
Proof sketch: linear bounds for K_r removal

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > \left(\frac{2r-5}{2r-3} + \alpha\right)n$ and G has $< \rho n^r$ copies of K_r , then G can be made K_r -free by deleting $< c_{\alpha,r} \rho n^2$ edges.

As in the case $r = 3$, it suffices to prove that every copy of K_r contains a **popular edge**, i.e. an edge in $> c_{\alpha,r} n^{r-2}$ copies of K_r .

For simplicity, let $r = 4$ and $\delta(G) > \left(\frac{3}{5} + \alpha\right)n$. Fix a K_4 in G , v_1, \dots, v_4 .



number of edges $> 4 \cdot \left(\frac{3}{5} + \alpha\right)n > \frac{12}{5}n = \left(2 + \frac{2}{5}\right)n$

many vertices on the right have ≥ 3 neighbors on the left

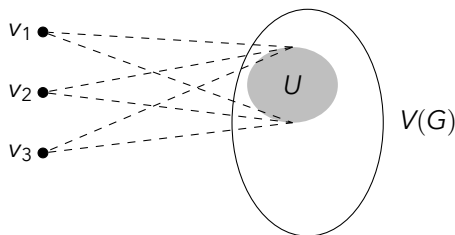
Proof sketch: linear bounds for K_r removal

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > \left(\frac{2r-5}{2r-3} + \alpha\right)n$ and G has $< \rho n^r$ copies of K_r , then G can be made K_r -free by deleting $< c_{\alpha,r} \rho n^2$ edges.

As in the case $r = 3$, it suffices to prove that every copy of K_r contains a **popular edge**, i.e. an edge in $> c_{\alpha,r} n^{r-2}$ copies of K_r .

For simplicity, let $r = 4$ and $\delta(G) > \left(\frac{3}{5} + \alpha\right)n$. Fix a K_4 in G , v_1, \dots, v_4 .



number of edges $> 4 \cdot \left(\frac{3}{5} + \alpha\right)n > \frac{12}{5}n = \left(2 + \frac{2}{5}\right)n$
many vertices on the right have ≥ 3 neighbors on the left

Proof sketch: linear bounds for K_r removal

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > (\frac{2r-5}{2r-3} + \alpha)n$ and G has $< \rho n^r$ copies of K_r , then G can be made K_r -free by deleting $< c_{\alpha,r} \rho n^2$ edges.

As in the case $r = 3$, it suffices to prove that every copy of K_r contains a **popular edge**, i.e. an edge in $> c_{\alpha,r} n^{r-2}$ copies of K_r .

For simplicity, let $r = 4$ and $\delta(G) > (\frac{3}{5} + \alpha)n$. Fix a K_4 in G , v_1, \dots, v_4 .

v_1 ●

v_2 ●

v_3 ●



Proof sketch: linear bounds for K_r removal

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > (\frac{2r-5}{2r-3} + \alpha)n$ and G has $< \rho n^r$ copies of K_r , then G can be made K_r -free by deleting $< c_{\alpha,r} \rho n^2$ edges.

As in the case $r = 3$, it suffices to prove that every copy of K_r contains a **popular edge**, i.e. an edge in $> c_{\alpha,r} n^{r-2}$ copies of K_r .

For simplicity, let $r = 4$ and $\delta(G) > (\frac{3}{5} + \alpha)n$. Fix a K_4 in G , v_1, \dots, v_4 .

v_1 ●

v_2 ●

v_3 ●



Proof sketch: linear bounds for K_r removal

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > \left(\frac{2r-5}{2r-3} + \alpha\right)n$ and G has $< \rho n^r$ copies of K_r , then G can be made K_r -free by deleting $< c_{\alpha,r} \rho n^2$ edges.

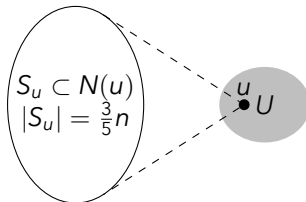
As in the case $r = 3$, it suffices to prove that every copy of K_r contains a **popular edge**, i.e. an edge in $> c_{\alpha,r} n^{r-2}$ copies of K_r .

For simplicity, let $r = 4$ and $\delta(G) > \left(\frac{3}{5} + \alpha\right)n$. Fix a K_4 in G , v_1, \dots, v_4 .

$v_1 \bullet$

$v_2 \bullet$

$v_3 \bullet$



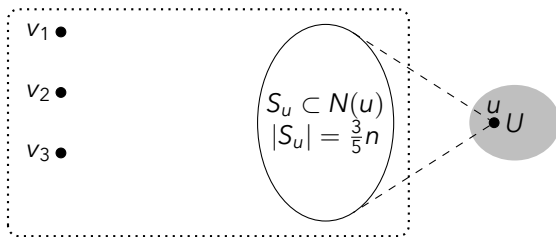
Proof sketch: linear bounds for K_r removal

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > \left(\frac{2r-5}{2r-3} + \alpha\right)n$ and G has $< \rho n^r$ copies of K_r , then G can be made K_r -free by deleting $< c_{\alpha,r} \rho n^2$ edges.

As in the case $r = 3$, it suffices to prove that every copy of K_r contains a **popular edge**, i.e. an edge in $> c_{\alpha,r} n^{r-2}$ copies of K_r .

For simplicity, let $r = 4$ and $\delta(G) > \left(\frac{3}{5} + \alpha\right)n$. Fix a K_4 in G , v_1, \dots, v_4 .



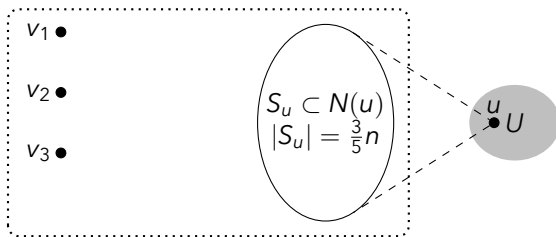
Proof sketch: linear bounds for K_r removal

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > \left(\frac{2r-5}{2r-3} + \alpha\right)n$ and G has $< \rho n^r$ copies of K_r , then G can be made K_r -free by deleting $< c_{\alpha,r} \rho n^2$ edges.

As in the case $r = 3$, it suffices to prove that every copy of K_r contains a **popular edge**, i.e. an edge in $> c_{\alpha,r} n^{r-2}$ copies of K_r .

For simplicity, let $r = 4$ and $\delta(G) > \left(\frac{3}{5} + \alpha\right)n$. Fix a K_4 in G , v_1, \dots, v_4 .



number of edges $> 3 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{5} + \alpha\right)n > (1 + \alpha)|S_u|$

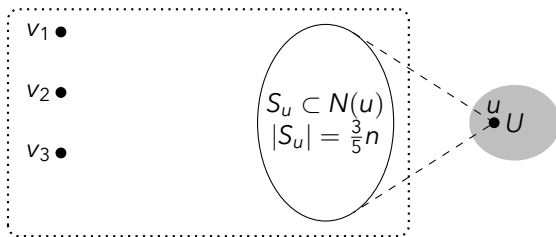
Proof sketch: linear bounds for K_r removal

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > (\frac{2r-5}{2r-3} + \alpha)n$ and G has $< \rho n^r$ copies of K_r , then G can be made K_r -free by deleting $< c_{\alpha,r} \rho n^2$ edges.

As in the case $r = 3$, it suffices to prove that every copy of K_r contains a **popular edge**, i.e. an edge in $> c_{\alpha,r} n^{r-2}$ copies of K_r .

For simplicity, let $r = 4$ and $\delta(G) > (\frac{3}{5} + \alpha)n$. Fix a K_4 in G , v_1, \dots, v_4 .



number of edges $> 3 \cdot (\frac{1}{5} + \alpha)n > (1 + \alpha)|S_u|$

many vertices on the right have ≥ 2 neighbors on the left

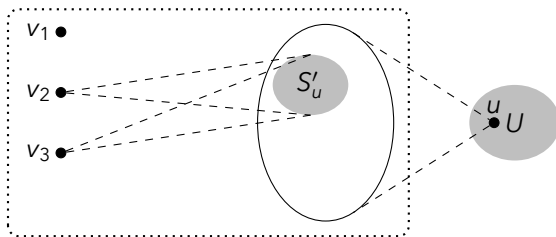
Proof sketch: linear bounds for K_r removal

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > \left(\frac{2r-5}{2r-3} + \alpha\right)n$ and G has $< \rho n^r$ copies of K_r , then G can be made K_r -free by deleting $< c_{\alpha,r} \rho n^2$ edges.

As in the case $r = 3$, it suffices to prove that every copy of K_r contains a **popular edge**, i.e. an edge in $> c_{\alpha,r} n^{r-2}$ copies of K_r .

For simplicity, let $r = 4$ and $\delta(G) > \left(\frac{3}{5} + \alpha\right)n$. Fix a K_4 in G , v_1, \dots, v_4 .



number of edges $> 3 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{5} + \alpha\right)n > (1 + \alpha)|S_u|$

many vertices on the right have ≥ 2 neighbors on the left

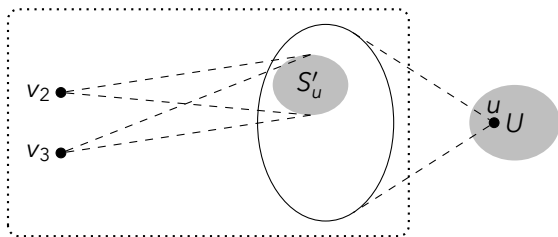
Proof sketch: linear bounds for K_r removal

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > \left(\frac{2r-5}{2r-3} + \alpha\right)n$ and G has $< \rho n^r$ copies of K_r , then G can be made K_r -free by deleting $< c_{\alpha,r} \rho n^2$ edges.

As in the case $r = 3$, it suffices to prove that every copy of K_r contains a **popular edge**, i.e. an edge in $> c_{\alpha,r} n^{r-2}$ copies of K_r .

For simplicity, let $r = 4$ and $\delta(G) > \left(\frac{3}{5} + \alpha\right)n$. Fix a K_4 in G , v_1, \dots, v_4 .



number of edges $> 3 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{5} + \alpha\right)n > (1 + \alpha)|S_u|$

many vertices on the right have ≥ 2 neighbors on the left

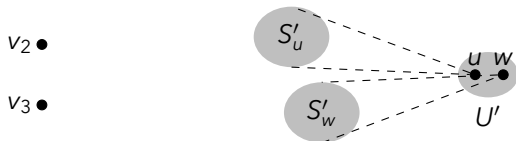
Proof sketch: linear bounds for K_r removal

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > \left(\frac{2r-5}{2r-3} + \alpha\right)n$ and G has $< \rho n^r$ copies of K_r , then G can be made K_r -free by deleting $< c_{\alpha,r} \rho n^2$ edges.

As in the case $r = 3$, it suffices to prove that every copy of K_r contains a **popular edge**, i.e. an edge in $> c_{\alpha,r} n^{r-2}$ copies of K_r .

For simplicity, let $r = 4$ and $\delta(G) > \left(\frac{3}{5} + \alpha\right)n$. Fix a K_4 in G , v_1, \dots, v_4 .



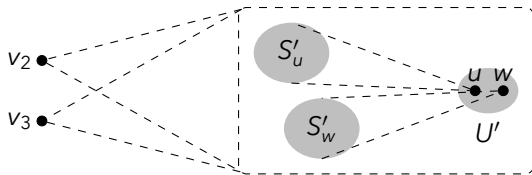
Proof sketch: linear bounds for K_r removal

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > \left(\frac{2r-5}{2r-3} + \alpha\right)n$ and G has $< \rho n^r$ copies of K_r , then G can be made K_r -free by deleting $< c_{\alpha,r} \rho n^2$ edges.

As in the case $r = 3$, it suffices to prove that every copy of K_r contains a **popular edge**, i.e. an edge in $> c_{\alpha,r} n^{r-2}$ copies of K_r .

For simplicity, let $r = 4$ and $\delta(G) > \left(\frac{3}{5} + \alpha\right)n$. Fix a K_4 in G , v_1, \dots, v_4 .



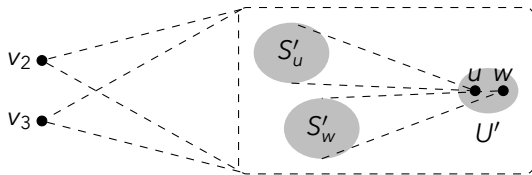
Proof sketch: linear bounds for K_r removal

Theorem (Fox-W.)

If $\delta(G) > \left(\frac{2r-5}{2r-3} + \alpha\right)n$ and G has $< \rho n^r$ copies of K_r , then G can be made K_r -free by deleting $< c_{\alpha,r} \rho n^2$ edges.

As in the case $r = 3$, it suffices to prove that every copy of K_r contains a **popular edge**, i.e. an edge in $> c_{\alpha,r} n^{r-2}$ copies of K_r .

For simplicity, let $r = 4$ and $\delta(G) > \left(\frac{3}{5} + \alpha\right)n$. Fix a K_4 in G , v_1, \dots, v_4 .



There are $c_{\alpha} n^2$ edges among the common neighbors of v_2 and v_3 .

Outline

Minimum degree conditions

The graph removal lemma

Minimum degree conditions and the graph removal lemma

Conclusion

Summary and open problems

Summary and open problems

- There is a structural threshold at minimum degree $\frac{1}{3}$ for triangle-free graphs: **bounded** “complexity” above $\frac{1}{3}$, but **unbounded** below.

Summary and open problems

- There is a structural threshold at minimum degree $\frac{1}{3}$ for triangle-free graphs: bounded “complexity” above $\frac{1}{3}$, but unbounded below.
- Similarly, the triangle removal lemma has a threshold at $\frac{1}{3}$: **linear** bounds above $\frac{1}{3}$, but **super-polynomial** below.

Summary and open problems

- There is a structural threshold at minimum degree $\frac{1}{3}$ for triangle-free graphs: bounded “complexity” above $\frac{1}{3}$, but unbounded below.
- Similarly, the triangle removal lemma has a threshold at $\frac{1}{3}$: linear bounds above $\frac{1}{3}$, but super-polynomial below.
- Above the threshold, simple averaging arguments suffice; below the threshold, it appears that much more powerful techniques are needed.

Summary and open problems

- There is a structural threshold at minimum degree $\frac{1}{3}$ for triangle-free graphs: bounded “complexity” above $\frac{1}{3}$, but unbounded below.
- Similarly, the triangle removal lemma has a threshold at $\frac{1}{3}$: linear bounds above $\frac{1}{3}$, but super-polynomial below.
- Above the threshold, simple averaging arguments suffice; below the threshold, it appears that much more powerful techniques are needed.
- We determine this **polynomial removal threshold** $\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(H)$ for many graphs H , but there remain many questions.

Summary and open problems

- There is a structural threshold at minimum degree $\frac{1}{3}$ for triangle-free graphs: bounded “complexity” above $\frac{1}{3}$, but unbounded below.
- Similarly, the triangle removal lemma has a threshold at $\frac{1}{3}$: linear bounds above $\frac{1}{3}$, but super-polynomial below.
- Above the threshold, simple averaging arguments suffice; below the threshold, it appears that much more powerful techniques are needed.
- We determine this polynomial removal threshold $\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(H)$ for many graphs H , but there remain many questions.
 - ▶ If $\chi(H) = \omega(H) = r$, then $\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(H) = \frac{2r-5}{2r-3}$.

Summary and open problems

- There is a structural threshold at minimum degree $\frac{1}{3}$ for triangle-free graphs: bounded “complexity” above $\frac{1}{3}$, but unbounded below.
- Similarly, the triangle removal lemma has a threshold at $\frac{1}{3}$: linear bounds above $\frac{1}{3}$, but super-polynomial below.
- Above the threshold, simple averaging arguments suffice; below the threshold, it appears that much more powerful techniques are needed.
- We determine this polynomial removal threshold $\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(H)$ for many graphs H , but there remain many questions.
 - ▶ If $\chi(H) = \omega(H) = r$, then $\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(H) = \frac{2r-5}{2r-3}$.
 - ▶ What is $\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(C_5)$? (or odd cycles more generally)

Summary and open problems

- There is a structural threshold at minimum degree $\frac{1}{3}$ for triangle-free graphs: bounded “complexity” above $\frac{1}{3}$, but unbounded below.
- Similarly, the triangle removal lemma has a threshold at $\frac{1}{3}$: linear bounds above $\frac{1}{3}$, but super-polynomial below.
- Above the threshold, simple averaging arguments suffice; below the threshold, it appears that much more powerful techniques are needed.
- We determine this polynomial removal threshold $\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(H)$ for many graphs H , but there remain many questions.
 - ▶ If $\chi(H) = \omega(H) = r$, then $\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(H) = \frac{2r-5}{2r-3}$.
 - ▶ What is $\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(C_5)$? (or odd cycles more generally)
 - ▶ For which graphs H does $\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(H) = \delta_\chi(H)$ and/or $\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(H) = \delta_{\text{hom}}(H)$?

Summary and open problems

- There is a structural threshold at minimum degree $\frac{1}{3}$ for triangle-free graphs: bounded “complexity” above $\frac{1}{3}$, but unbounded below.
- Similarly, the triangle removal lemma has a threshold at $\frac{1}{3}$: linear bounds above $\frac{1}{3}$, but super-polynomial below.
- Above the threshold, simple averaging arguments suffice; below the threshold, it appears that much more powerful techniques are needed.
- We determine this polynomial removal threshold $\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(H)$ for many graphs H , but there remain many questions.
 - ▶ If $\chi(H) = \omega(H) = r$, then $\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(H) = \frac{2r-5}{2r-3}$.
 - ▶ What is $\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(C_5)$? (or odd cycles more generally)
 - ▶ For which graphs H does $\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(H) = \delta_\chi(H)$ and/or $\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(H) = \delta_{\text{hom}}(H)$?
- Are there applications of the removal lemma with high minimum degree? (I only know one application.)

Summary and open problems

- There is a structural threshold at minimum degree $\frac{1}{3}$ for triangle-free graphs: bounded “complexity” above $\frac{1}{3}$, but unbounded below.
- Similarly, the triangle removal lemma has a threshold at $\frac{1}{3}$: linear bounds above $\frac{1}{3}$, but super-polynomial below.
- Above the threshold, simple averaging arguments suffice; below the threshold, it appears that much more powerful techniques are needed.
- We determine this polynomial removal threshold $\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(H)$ for many graphs H , but there remain many questions.
 - ▶ If $\chi(H) = \omega(H) = r$, then $\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(H) = \frac{2r-5}{2r-3}$.
 - ▶ What is $\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(C_5)$? (or odd cycles more generally)
 - ▶ For which graphs H does $\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(H) = \delta_\chi(H)$ and/or $\delta_{\text{poly-rem}}(H) = \delta_{\text{hom}}(H)$?
- Are there applications of the removal lemma with high minimum degree? (I only know one application.)
- Are there hypergraph analogues of these results?

Thank you!