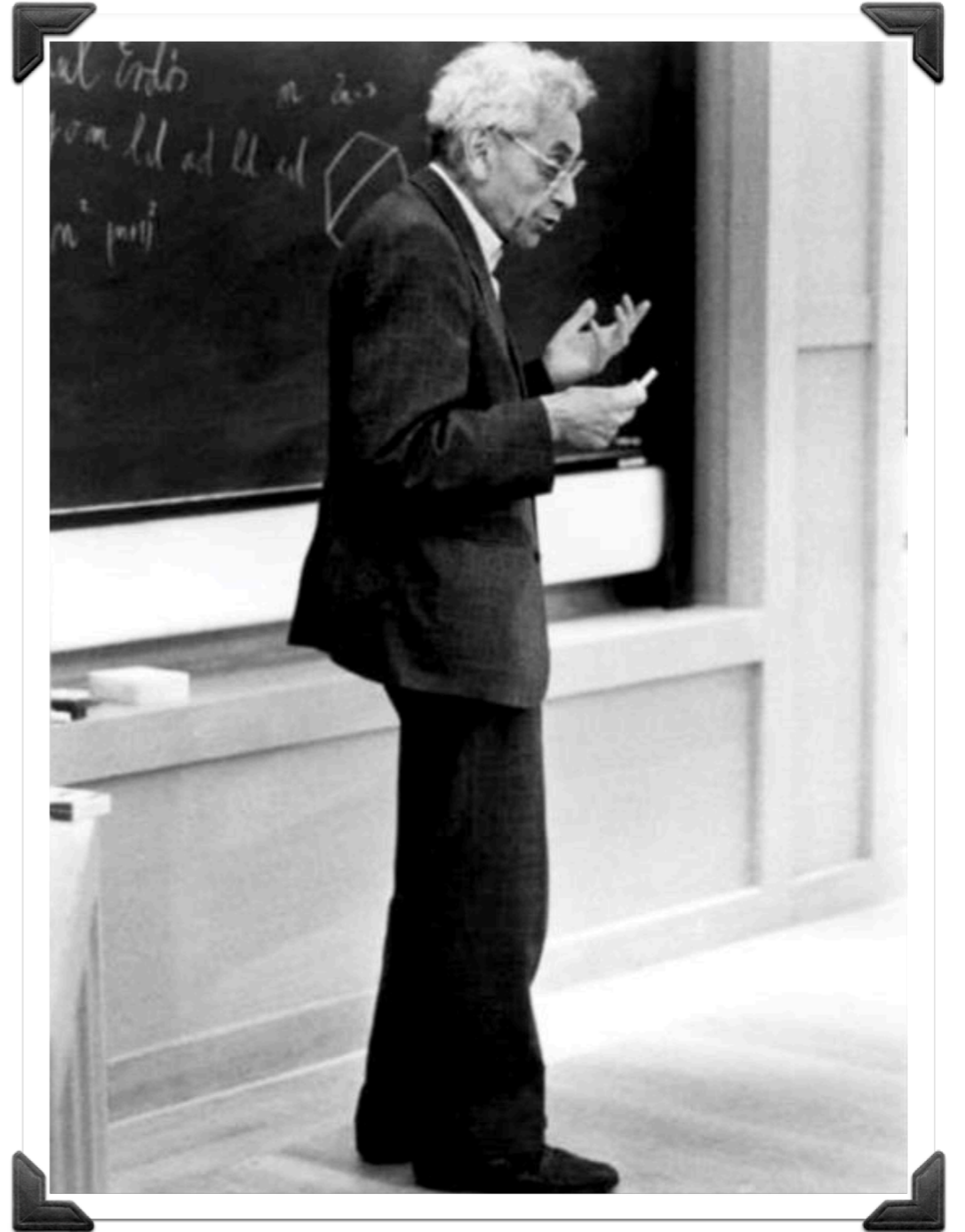


# Combinatorics

## The Probabilistic Method

尹一通 Nanjing University, 2024 Spring

# *The Probabilistic Method*



Paul Erdős  
(1913-1996)

# Ramsey Number

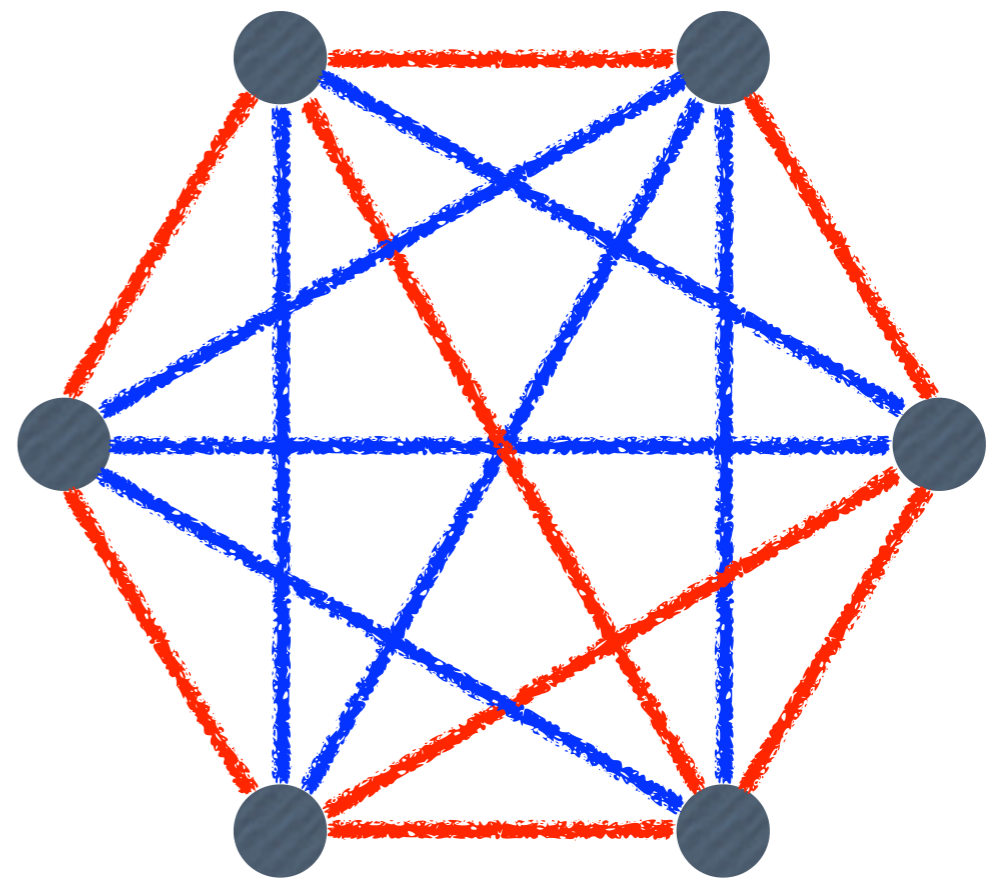
*“In any party of six people, either at least three of them are mutual strangers or at least three of them are mutual acquaintances”*

- For any edge-2-coloring of  $K_6$ , there is a *monochromatic*  $K_3$ .

## Ramsey Theorem

If  $n \geq R(k, k)$ , for any edge-2-coloring of  $K_n$ , there is a monochromatic  $K_k$ .

Ramsey number:  $R(k, k)$



## Theorem (Erdős 1947)

If  $\binom{n}{k} \cdot 2^{1-\binom{k}{2}} < 1$  then it is possible to color the edges of  $K_n$  with 2 colors so that there is no monochromatic  $K_k$  subgraph.

Each edge  $e \in K_n$  is colored  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{red} \text{ with prob } 1/2 \\ \text{blue} \text{ with prob } 1/2 \end{array} \right.$

For any  $K_k$  subgraph:

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr[\text{the } K_k \text{ is monochromatic}] &= \Pr[\text{red } K_k \text{ or blue } K_k] \\ &= 2^{1-\binom{k}{2}} \end{aligned}$$



## Theorem (Erdős 1947)

If  $\binom{n}{k} \cdot 2^{1-\binom{k}{2}} < 1$  then it is possible to color the edges of  $K_n$  with 2 colors so that there is no monochromatic  $K_k$  subgraph.

Each edge  $e \in K_n$  is colored  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{red} \text{ with prob } 1/2 \\ \text{blue} \text{ with prob } 1/2 \end{array} \right.$

$$\Pr[\exists K_k \text{ is monochromatic}] \leq \binom{n}{k} 2^{1-\binom{k}{2}} < 1$$

$$\implies \Pr[\text{no } K_k \text{ is monochromatic}] > 0$$

$\implies \exists$  a 2-coloring of edges of  $K_n$  without monochromatic  $K_k$

# Tournament

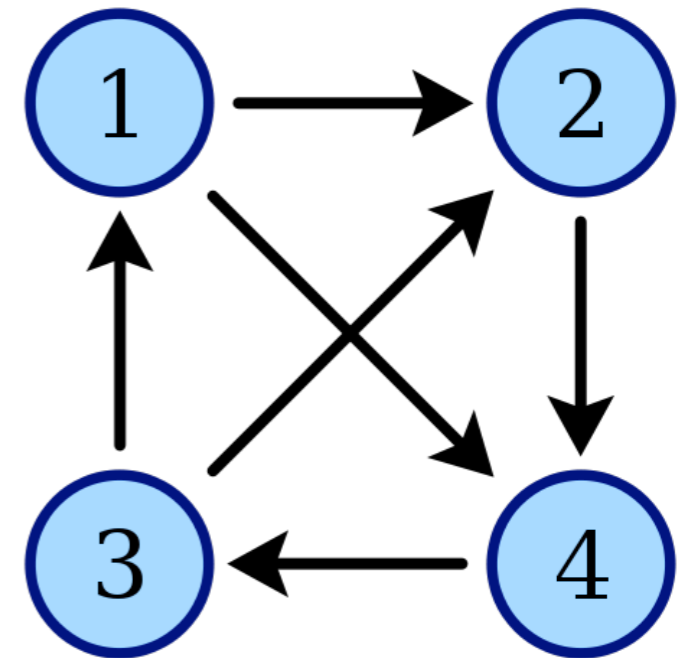
$T(V, E)$

$n$  players, each pair has a match.

$u \rightarrow v$  iff  $u$  beats  $v$ .

**$k$ -paradoxical:**

For every  $k$ -subset  $S$  of  $V$ ,  
there is a player in  $V \setminus S$  who  
beats all players in  $S$ .



*“Does there exist a  $k$ -paradoxical tournament for every finite  $k$ ?”*

**Theorem** (Erdős 1963)

If  $\binom{n}{k} (1 - 2^{-k})^{n-k} < 1$  then there is a  $k$ -paradoxical tournament of  $n$  players.

Pick a random tournament  $T$  on  $n$  players  $[n]$ .

Fixed any  $S \in \binom{[n]}{k}$

Event  $A_S$ : no player in  $V \setminus S$  beat all players in  $S$ .

$$\Pr[A_S] = (1 - 2^{-k})^{n-k}$$

**Theorem** (Erdős 1963)

If  $\binom{n}{k} (1 - 2^{-k})^{n-k} < 1$  then there is a  $k$ -paradoxical tournament of  $n$  players.

Pick a random tournament  $T$  on  $n$  players  $[n]$ .

Event  $A_S$ : no player in  $V \setminus S$  beat all players in  $S$ .

$$\forall S \in \binom{[n]}{k} : \Pr[A_S] = (1 - 2^{-k})^{n-k}$$

$$\Pr \left[ \bigvee_{S \in \binom{[n]}{k}} A_S \right] \leq \sum_{S \in \binom{[n]}{k}} (1 - 2^{-k})^{n-k} < 1$$

**Theorem** (Erdős 1963)

If  $\binom{n}{k} (1 - 2^{-k})^{n-k} < 1$  then there is a  $k$ -paradoxical tournament of  $n$  players.

Pick a random tournament  $T$  on  $n$  players  $[n]$ .

Event  $A_S$ : no player in  $V \setminus S$  beat all players in  $S$ .

$$\Pr \left[ \bigvee_{S \in \binom{[n]}{k}} A_S \right] < 1$$

$$\Pr[T \text{ is } k\text{-paradoxical}] = 1 - \Pr \left[ \bigvee_{S \in \binom{[n]}{k}} A_S \right] > 0$$

**Theorem** (Erdős 1963)

If  $\binom{n}{k} (1 - 2^{-k})^{n-k} < 1$  then there is a  $k$ -paradoxical tournament of  $n$  players.

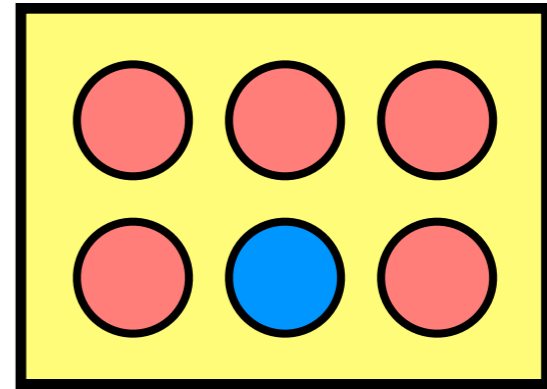
Pick a random tournament  $T$  on  $n$  players  $[n]$ .

$$\Pr[T \text{ is } k\text{-paradoxical}] > 0$$

There is a  $k$ -paradoxical tournament on  $n$  players.

# The Probabilistic Method

- Pick random ball from a box,  
 $\Pr[\text{the ball is blue}] > 0.$   
 $\Rightarrow$  There is a blue ball.

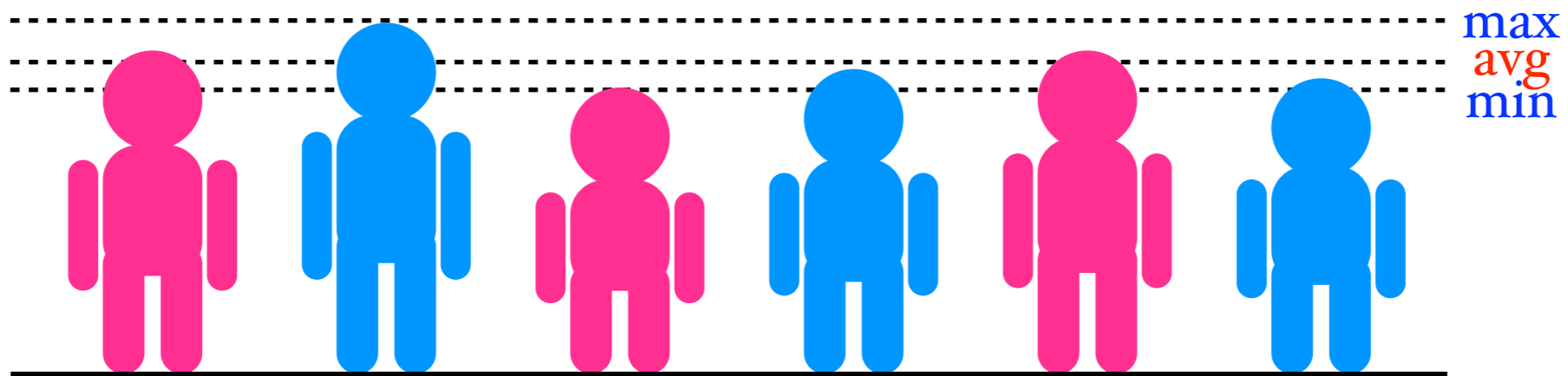


- Define a probability space  $\Omega$ , and a property  $P$ :  
$$\Pr_x[P(x)] > 0$$
  
 $\implies \exists$  a sample  $x \in \Omega$  with property  $P$ .



# Averaging Principle

- Average height of the students in class is  $l$ .  
 $\Rightarrow$  There is a student of height  $\geq l$  ( $\leq l$ )

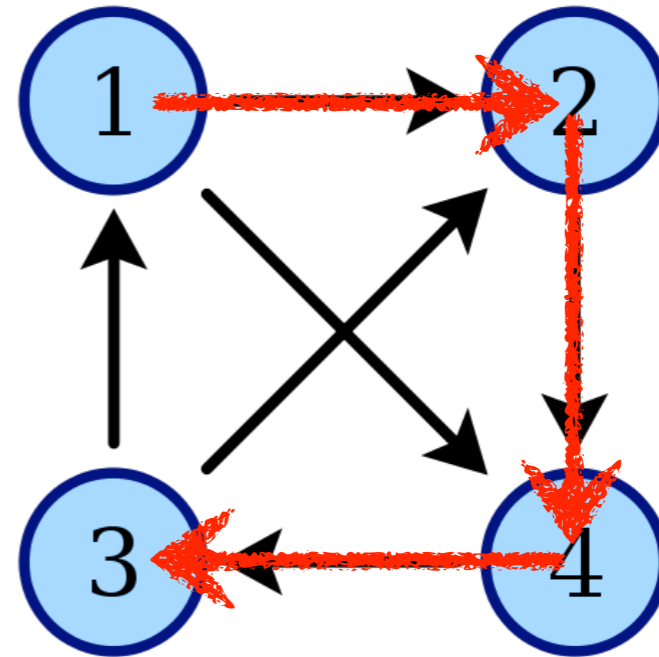


- For a random variable  $X$ ,
  - $\exists x \leq E[X]$ , such that  $X = x$  is possible;
  - $\exists x \geq E[X]$ , such that  $X = x$  is possible.

# Hamiltonian Paths in Tournament

Hamiltonian path:

a path visiting every vertex *exactly* once.



**Theorem** (Szele 1943)

There is a tournament on  $n$  players with at least  $n!2^{-(n-1)}$  Hamiltonian paths.

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There is a tournament on  $n$  players with at least  $n!2^{-(n-1)}$  Hamiltonian paths.

Pick a random tournament  $T$  on  $n$  players  $[n]$ .

For every permutation  $\pi$  of  $[n]$ ,

$$X_{\pi} = \begin{cases} 1 & \pi \text{ is a Hamiltonian path} \\ 0 & \pi \text{ is not a Hamiltonian path} \end{cases}$$

# Hamiltonian paths:  $X = \sum_{\pi} X_{\pi}$

$$\mathbb{E}[X_{\pi}] = \Pr[X_{\pi} = 1] = 2^{-(n-1)}$$

**Theorem** (Szele 1943)

There is a tournament on  $n$  players with at least  $n!2^{-(n-1)}$  Hamiltonian paths.

Pick a random tournament  $T$  on  $n$  players  $[n]$ .

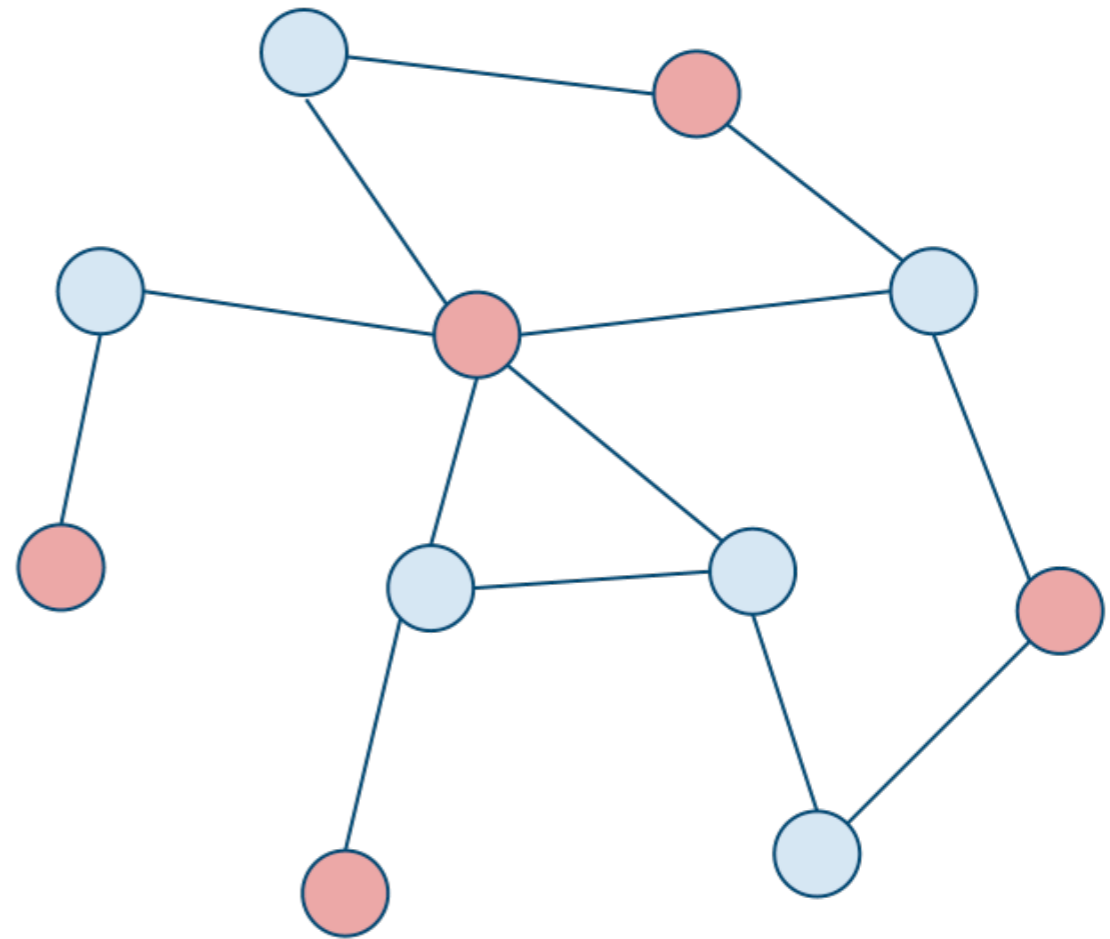
# Hamiltonian paths:  $X = \sum_{\pi} X_{\pi}$

$$E[X_{\pi}] = \Pr[X_{\pi} = 1] = 2^{-(n-1)}$$

$$E[X] = \sum_{\pi} E[X_{\pi}] = n!2^{-(n-1)}$$

# Large Independent Set

- Graph  $G(V, E)$
- independent set  $S \subseteq V$
- no adjacent vertices in  $S$
- max independent set is **NP**-hard



**Theorem:**  $G$  has  $n$  vertices and  $m$  edges

→  $\exists$  an independent set  $S$  of size  $\frac{n^2}{4m}$

- Draw a random independent set  $S \subseteq V$  (How?)
  - each  $v \in V$  is selected into a random set  $R$  independently with probability  $p$  (to be fixed later)
  - for every  $uv \in E$ : delete one of  $u, v$  from  $R$  if  $u, v \in R$
  - the resulting set is an independent set  $S$
- Show that  $\mathbf{E}[|S|] \geq \frac{n^2}{4m}$

$G(V, E)$ :  $n$  vertices,  $m$  edges

1. sample a random  $R$  : each vertex is chosen  
*independently* with probability  $p$

2. modify  $R$  to  $S$  : **independent set!**

$$\forall uv \in E \quad \text{if } u, v \in R$$

delete one of  $u, v$  from  $R$

$$Y: \text{ \# of edges in } R \quad Y = \sum_{uv \in E} Y_{uv} \quad Y_{uv} = \begin{cases} 1 & u, v \in S \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

$$\mathbf{E}[|S|] \geq \mathbf{E}[|R| - Y] = \mathbf{E}[|R|] - \mathbf{E}[Y]$$

$$\mathbf{E}[|R|] = np \quad \mathbf{E}[Y] = \sum_{uv \in E} \mathbf{E}[Y_{uv}] = mp^2$$



$G(V, E)$ :  $n$  vertices,  $m$  edges

1. sample a random  $R$  : each vertex is chosen  
*independently* with probability  $p$

2. modify  $R$  to  $S$  : **independent set!**

$\forall uv \in E$  if  $u, v \in R$

delete one of  $u, v$  from  $R$

$$\mathbf{E}[|S|] \geq np - mp^2 = \frac{n^2}{4m}$$

when  $p = \frac{n}{2m}$

$G(V, E)$ :  $n$  vertices,  $m$  edges      average degree  $d = \frac{2m}{n}$

random independent set  $S$ :

$$\mathbf{E}[|S|] \geq \frac{n^2}{4m} = \frac{n}{2d}$$

**Theorem:**  $G$  has  $n$  vertices and  $m$  edges

  $\exists$  an independent set  $S$  of size  $\frac{n^2}{4m}$

**Theorem:**  $G$  has  $n$  vertices and  $m$  edges

→  $\exists$  an independent set  $S$  of size  $\frac{n^2}{2m + n}$

- Draw a random independent set  $S \subseteq V$ 
  - each  $v \in V$  draws a real number  $r_v \in [0,1]$  uniform and independent at random
  - each  $v \in V$  joins  $S$  iff  $r_v$  is **local maximal** within the neighborhood of  $v$
  - $S$  must be an independent set

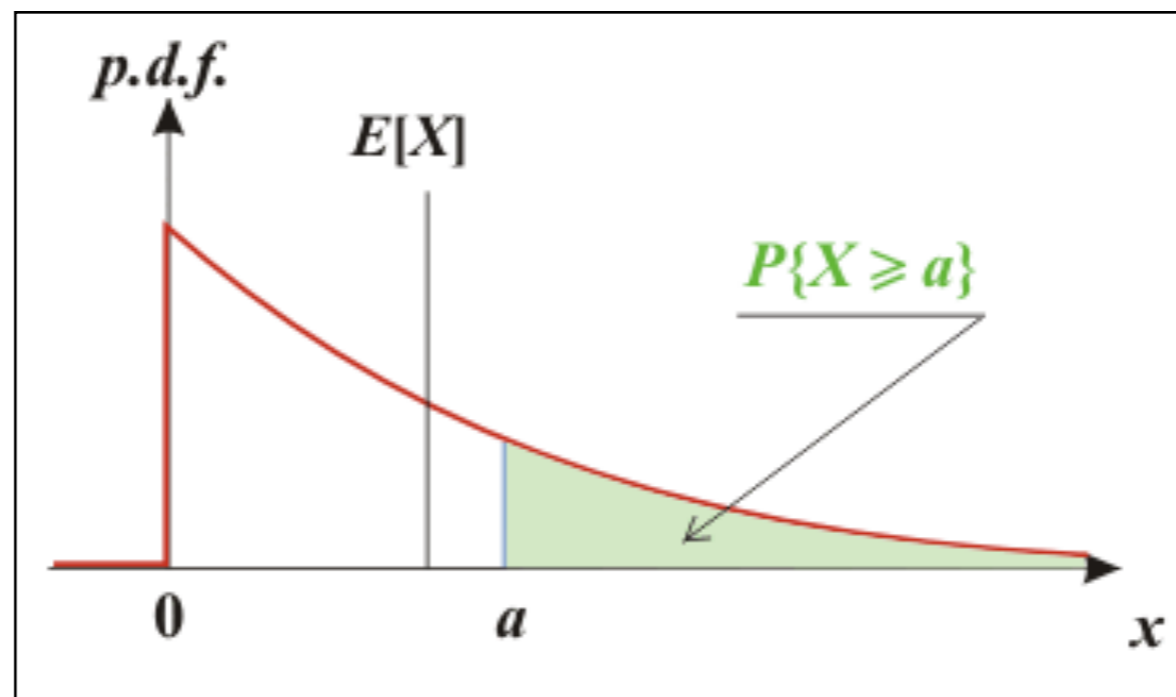
- $\forall v \in V: \Pr[v \in S] = \frac{1}{d_v + 1} \implies \mathbf{E}[|S|] = \sum_{v \in V} \frac{1}{d_v + 1}$   
(Cauchy-Schwarz)  $\geq \frac{n^2}{2m + n}$

# Markov's Inequality

## Markov's Inequality:

For *nonnegative*  $X$ , for any  $t > 0$ ,

$$\Pr[X \geq t] \leq \frac{\mathbf{E}[X]}{t}.$$



# Markov's Inequality

## **Markov's Inequality:**

For *nonnegative*  $X$ , for any  $t > 0$ ,

$$\Pr[X \geq t] \leq \frac{\mathbf{E}[X]}{t}.$$

## **Proof:**

$$\text{Let } Y = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } X \geq t, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \Rightarrow Y \leq \left\lfloor \frac{X}{t} \right\rfloor \leq \frac{X}{t},$$

$$\Pr[X \geq t] = \mathbf{E}[Y] \leq \mathbf{E}\left[\frac{X}{t}\right] = \frac{\mathbf{E}[X]}{t}.$$

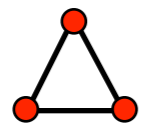
QED

Graph  $G(V, E)$

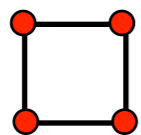
**girth  $g(G)$ :** length of the shortest cycle

**chromatic number  $\chi(G)$ :**

minimum number of color to  
**properly** color the vertices of  $G$ .



$$g(G) = 3 \quad \chi(G) = 3$$



$$g(G) = 4 \quad \chi(G) = 2$$

**Intuition: Large cycles are easy to color!**

## Theorem (Erdős 1959)

For all  $k, \ell$ , there exists a finite graph  $G$  with  
 $\chi(G) \geq k$  and  $g(G) \geq \ell$ .

coloring classes:

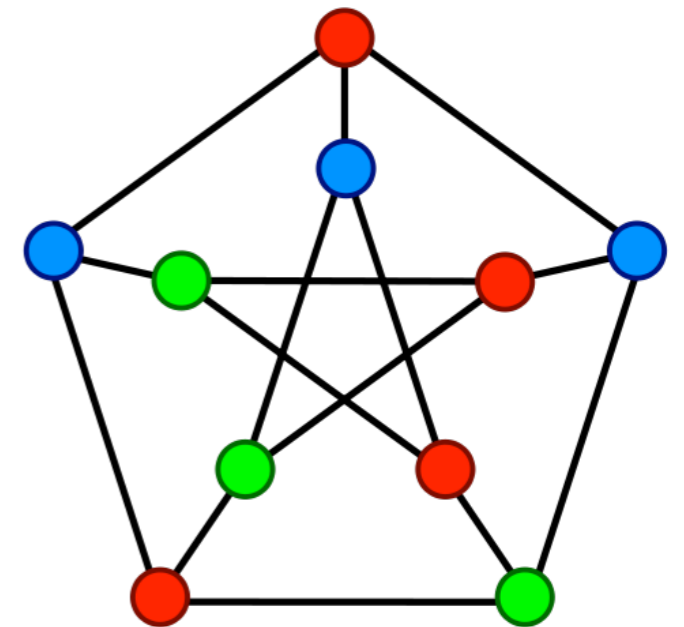
equivalence classes of vertices

“Independent sets!”

independence number  $\alpha(G)$ :

size of the largest independent set in  $G$ .

$$n \text{ vertices} \quad \chi(G) \geq \frac{n}{\alpha(G)} \leq \frac{n}{k} \geq k$$



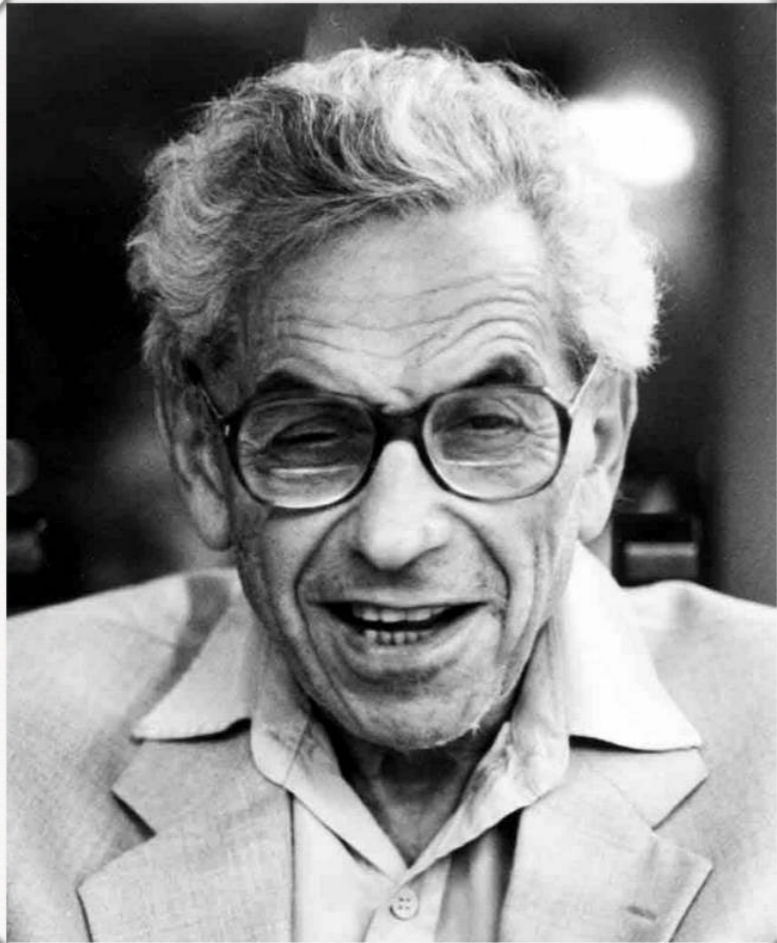


For all  $k, \ell$ , there exists a graph  $G$  on  $n$  vertices  
with  $\alpha(G) \leq \frac{n}{k}$  and  $g(G) \geq \ell$ .

$$|V| = n \quad \forall \{u, v\} \in \binom{V}{2}$$

**independently**  $\Pr[\{u, v\} \in E] = p$

# Random Graphs



**Paul Erdős**  
(1913 - 1996)



**Alfréd Rényi**  
(1921 - 1970)

# Erdős-Rényi 1960 paper:

## ON THE EVOLUTION OF RANDOM GRAPHS

by

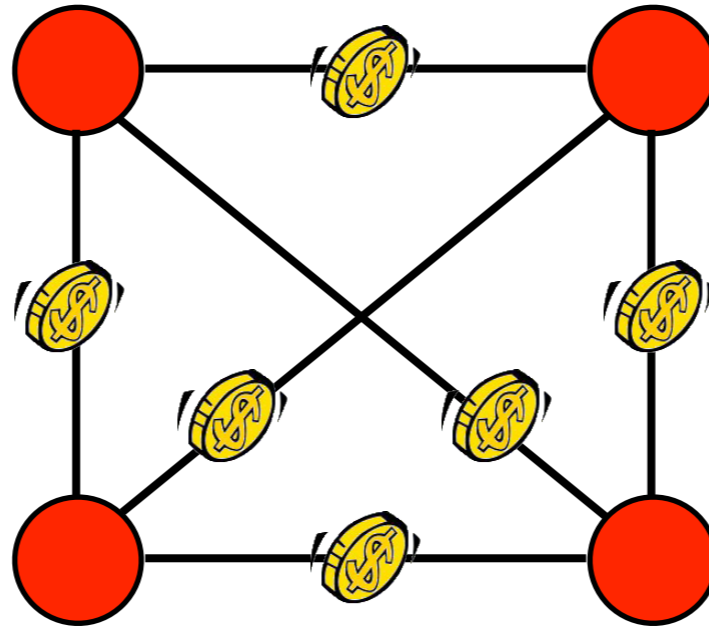
P. ERDÖS and A. RÉNYI

*Institute of Mathematics  
Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Hungary*

### **1. Definition of a random graph**

Let  $E_{n, N}$  denote the set of all graphs having  $n$  given labelled vertices  $V_1, V_2, \dots, V_n$  and  $N$  edges. The graphs considered are supposed to be not oriented, without parallel edges and without slings (such graphs are sometimes called linear graphs). Thus a graph belonging to the set  $E_{n, N}$  is obtained by choosing  $N$  out of the possible  $\binom{n}{2}$  edges between the points  $V_1, V_2, \dots, V_n$ , and therefore the number of elements of  $E_{n, N}$  is equal to  $\binom{\binom{n}{2}}{N}$ . A random graph  $\Gamma_{n, N}$  can be defined as an element of  $E_{n, N}$  chosen at random, so that each of the elements of  $E_{n, N}$  have the same probability to be chosen, namely  $1/\binom{\binom{n}{2}}{N}$ . There is however an other slightly different point of view, which has some advantages. *We may consider the formation of a random graph as a stochastic process defined as follows: At time  $t=1$  we choose one out of the  $\binom{n}{2}$  possible edges connecting the points  $V_1, V_2, \dots, V_n$ ,*

$G(n, p)$



$$|V| = n \quad \forall u, v \in V$$

**independently**  $\Pr[\{u, v\} \in E] = p$

**uniform random graph:**  $G(n, \frac{1}{2})$

For all  $k, \ell$ , there exists a graph  $G$  on  $n$  vertices  
with  $\alpha(G) \leq \frac{n}{k}$  and  $g(G) \geq \ell$ .

fix any large  $k, \ell$       exists  $n$

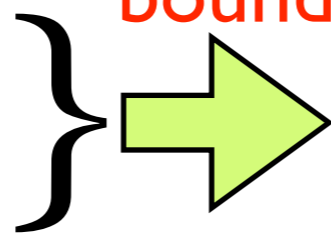
$G \sim G(n, p)$

**Plan:**

$$\Pr[ \alpha(G) > n/k ] < 1/2$$

$$\Pr[ g(G) < \ell ] < 1/2$$

union  
bound



$$\Pr[ \alpha(G) > n/k \vee g(G) < \ell ] < 1$$

$$\Pr[ \alpha(G) \leq n/k \wedge g(G) \geq \ell ] > 0$$

$$G \sim G(n, p)$$

$$\Pr[\alpha(G) \geq n/k] \leq \Pr[\exists \text{ind. set of size } n/k]$$

$$\leq \Pr[\exists S \in \binom{[n]}{n/k} \forall \{u, v\} \in \binom{S}{2}, uv \notin G]$$

$$\leq \sum_{S \in \binom{[n]}{n/k}} \Pr[\forall \{u, v\} \in \binom{S}{2}, uv \notin G] \quad \text{union bound}$$

$$= \sum_{S \in \binom{[n]}{n/k}} \prod_{\{u, v\} \in \binom{S}{2}} \Pr[uv \notin G] = \binom{n}{n/k} (1-p)^{\binom{n/k}{2}}$$

$$\leq n^{n/k} (1-p)^{\binom{n/k}{2}}$$

$$G \sim G(n, p) \quad \Pr[\alpha(G) \geq n/k] \leq n^{n/k} (1-p)^{\binom{n/k}{2}}$$

$$\Pr[g(G) > l] < ?$$

for each  $i$ -cycle  $\sigma : u_1 \rightarrow u_2 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow u_i \rightarrow u_1$

$$\Pr[\sigma \text{ is a cycle in } G] = p^i$$

$$X_\sigma = \begin{cases} 1 & \sigma \text{ is a cycle in } G \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\# \text{ of length} \leq l \text{ cycles in } G \quad X = \sum_{i=3}^l \sum_{\sigma: |\sigma|=i} X_\sigma$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[X] &= \sum_{i=3}^l \sum_{\sigma: |\sigma|=i} \mathbb{E}[X_\sigma] = \sum_{i=3}^l \sum_{\sigma: |\sigma|=i} p^i \\ &= \sum_{i=3}^l \frac{n(n-1) \cdots (n-i+1)}{2i} p^i \leq \sum_{i=3}^l \frac{n^i}{2i} p^i \end{aligned}$$



$$G \sim G(n, p) \quad k = \frac{np}{3 \ln n} \quad n/k = \frac{3 \ln n}{p}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr[\alpha(G) \geq n/k] &\leq n^{n/k} (1-p)^{\binom{n/k}{2}} \\ &\leq n^{n/k} e^{-p \binom{n/k}{2}} \\ &= (n e^{-p(n/k-1)/2})^{n/k} = o(1) \end{aligned}$$

$X$  : # of **length  $\leq \ell$  cycles** in  $G$

$$\mathbb{E}[X] \leq \sum_{i=3}^{\ell} \frac{n^i}{2i} p^i = \sum_{i=3}^{\ell} \frac{n^{\theta i}}{2i} = o(n)$$

$$p = n^{\theta-1} \quad \theta < \frac{1}{2\ell}$$

$$\Pr[X \geq \frac{n}{2}] \leq \frac{2\mathbb{E}[X]}{n} = o(1)$$

**Markov**

$G \sim G(n, p)$

$$p = n^{\theta-1} \quad \theta < \frac{1}{2\ell} \quad k = \frac{np}{3 \ln n} = \frac{n^{1/2\ell}}{3 \ln n}$$

$$\Pr[\alpha(G) \geq n/k] = o(1)$$

$X$ : # of **length  $\leq l$  cycles** in  $G$

$$\Pr[X \geq \frac{n}{2}] = o(1)$$

$$\exists G: \alpha(G) < n/k$$

# of **length  $\leq l$  cycles** in  $G < n/2$

delete 1 vertex per each **length  $\leq l$  cycle** in  $G$    $G'$

$$g(G') > l \quad \alpha(G') \leq \alpha(G) < n/k$$

## Theorem (Erdős 1959)

For all  $k, \ell$ , there exists a finite graph  $G$  with  
 $\chi(G) \geq k$  and  $g(G) \geq \ell$ .

coloring classes:

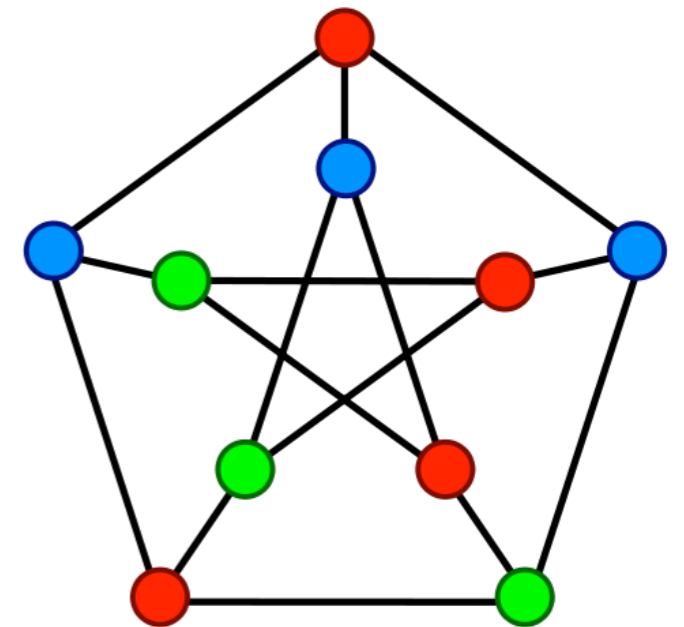
equivalence classes of vertices

“Independent sets!”

independence number  $\alpha(G)$ :

size of the largest independent set in  $G$ .

$$n \text{ vertices} \quad \chi(G) \geq \frac{n}{\alpha(G)} \leq \frac{n}{k} \geq k$$



# Lovász Local Lemma

# Ramsey Number

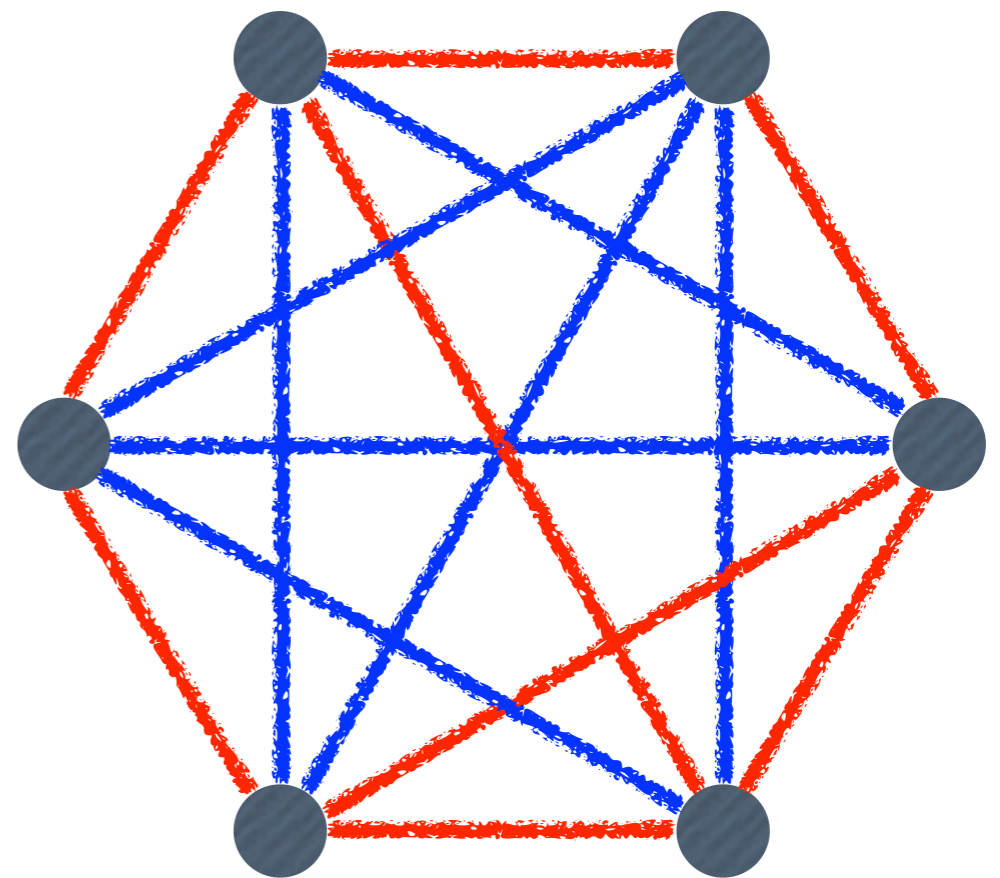
*“In any party of six people, either at least three of them are mutual strangers or at least three of them are mutual acquaintances”*

- For any edge-2-coloring of  $K_6$ , there is a *monochromatic*  $K_3$ .

## Ramsey Theorem

If  $n \geq R(k, k)$ , for any edge-2-coloring of  $K_n$ , there is a monochromatic  $K_k$ .

Ramsey number:  $R(k, k)$



$$R(k,k) > ?$$

“ $\exists$  a 2-coloring of  $K_n$  with no monochromatic  $K_k$ .”

The Probabilistic Method:

a random 2-coloring of  $K_n$

$$\forall S \in \binom{[n]}{k}$$

event  $A_S$ :  $S$  is a monochromatic  $K_k$

To prove:

$$\Pr \left[ \bigwedge_{S \in \binom{[n]}{k}} \overline{A_S} \right] > 0$$

Dependency!

# Lovász Sieve

- **Bad** events:  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$
- None of the bad events occurs:

$$\Pr \left[ \bigwedge_{i=1}^n \overline{A_i} \right]$$

- **The probabilistic method:** being **good** is possible

$$\Pr \left[ \bigwedge_{i=1}^n \overline{A_i} \right] > 0$$

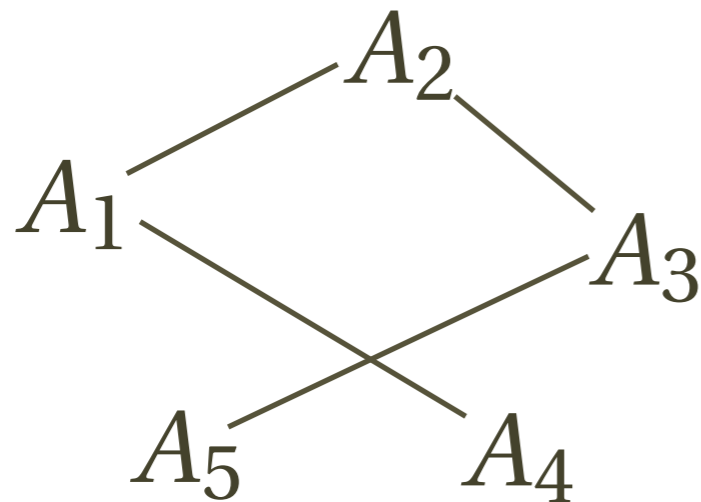
events:  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$

dependency graph:  $D(V, E)$

$$V = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$$

$ij \in E \iff A_i$  and  $A_j$  are dependent

$d$ : max degree of dependency graph



$A_1 (X_1, X_4)$

$A_4 (X_4)$

$A_2 (X_1, X_2)$

$A_5 (X_3)$

$A_3 (X_2, X_3)$

$X_1, \dots, X_4$  mutually independent

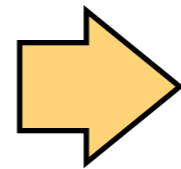


events:  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$

$d$  : max degree of dependency graph

### Lovász Local Lemma

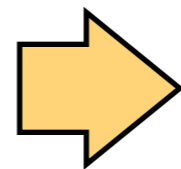
- $\forall i, \Pr[A_i] \leq p$
- $ep(d+1) \leq 1$



$$\Pr \left[ \bigwedge_{i=1}^n \overline{A_i} \right] > 0$$

### General Lovász Local Lemma

$$\begin{aligned} &\exists x_1, \dots, x_n \in [0, 1) \\ &\forall i, \Pr[A_i] \leq x_i \prod_{j \sim i} (1 - x_j) \end{aligned}$$



$$\Pr \left[ \bigwedge_{i=1}^n \overline{A_i} \right] \geq \prod_{i=1}^n (1 - x_i)$$

$$R(k, k) \geq n$$

“ $\exists$  a 2-coloring of  $K_n$  with no monochromatic  $K_k$ .”

a random 2-coloring of  $K_n$ :

$\forall \{u, v\} \in K_n$ , uniformly and independently  $\begin{cases} uv \\ uv \end{cases}$

$\forall S \in \binom{[n]}{k}$  event  $A_S$ :  $S$  is a monochromatic  $K_k$

$$\Pr[A_S] = 2 \cdot 2^{-\binom{k}{2}} = 2^{1-\binom{k}{2}}$$

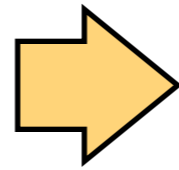
$A_S, A_T$  dependent  $\iff |S \cap T| \geq 2$

max degree of dependency graph  $d \leq \binom{k}{2} \binom{n}{k-2}$

To prove:  $\Pr \left[ \bigwedge_{S \in \binom{[n]}{k}} \overline{A_S} \right] > 0$

## Lovász Local Lemma

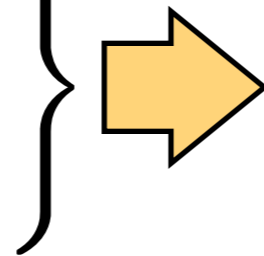
- $\forall i, \Pr[A_i] \leq p$
- $ep(d+1) \leq 1$



$$\Pr \left[ \bigwedge_{i=1}^n \overline{A_i} \right] > 0$$

$$\Pr[A_S] = 2^{1 - \binom{k}{2}}$$

$$d \leq \binom{k}{2} \binom{n}{k-2}$$



for some  $n = ck2^{k/2}$   
with constant  $c$

$$e2^{1 - \binom{k}{2}} (d+1) \leq 1$$

To prove:  $\Pr \left[ \bigwedge_{S \in \binom{[n]}{k}} \overline{A_S} \right] > 0$

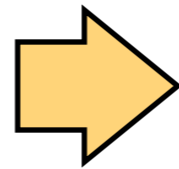
$$R(k, k) \geq n = \Omega(k2^{k/2})$$

events:  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$

## General Lovász Local Lemma

$$\exists x_1, \dots, x_n \in [0, 1)$$

$$\forall i, \Pr[A_i] \leq x_i \prod_{j \sim i} (1 - x_j)$$



$$\Pr \left[ \bigwedge_{i=1}^n \overline{A_i} \right] \geq \prod_{i=1}^n (1 - x_i)$$

$$\Pr \left[ \bigwedge_{i=1}^n \overline{A_i} \right] = \prod_{i=1}^n \Pr \left[ \overline{A_i} \mid \bigwedge_{j=1}^{i-1} \overline{A_j} \right] = \prod_{i=1}^n \left( 1 - \Pr \left[ A_i \mid \bigwedge_{j=1}^{i-1} \overline{A_j} \right] \right)$$

**Lemma** For any  $\mathcal{E}_1, \mathcal{E}_2, \dots, \mathcal{E}_n$ ,

$$\Pr \left[ \bigwedge_{i=1}^n \mathcal{E}_i \right] = \prod_{k=1}^n \Pr \left[ \mathcal{E}_k \mid \bigwedge_{i < k} \mathcal{E}_i \right].$$

proof:

$$\Pr \left[ \mathcal{E}_n \mid \bigwedge_{i=1}^{n-1} \mathcal{E}_i \right] = \frac{\Pr \left[ \bigwedge_{i=1}^n \mathcal{E}_i \right]}{\Pr \left[ \bigwedge_{i=1}^{n-1} \mathcal{E}_i \right]}$$

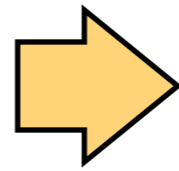
recursion!

events:  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$

## General Lovász Local Lemma

$$\exists x_1, \dots, x_n \in [0, 1)$$

$$\forall i, \Pr[A_i] \leq x_i \prod_{j \sim i} (1 - x_j)$$



$$\Pr \left[ \bigwedge_{i=1}^n \overline{A_i} \right] \geq \prod_{i=1}^n (1 - x_i)$$

I.H.

$$\Pr \left[ A_{i_1} \mid \overline{A_{i_2}} \cdots \overline{A_{i_m}} \right] \leq x_{i_1} \text{ for any } \{i_1, \dots, i_m\}$$

induction on  $m$ :

$$m = 1, \text{ trivial}$$

events:  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$

$$\begin{aligned} &\exists x_1, \dots, x_n \in [0, 1) \\ &\forall i, \Pr[A_i] \leq x_i \prod_{j \sim i} (1 - x_j) \end{aligned}$$

**I.H.**  $\Pr \left[ A_{i_1} \mid \overline{A_{i_2}} \cdots \overline{A_{i_m}} \right] \leq x_{i_1}$  for any  $\{i_1, \dots, i_m\}$

suppose  $i_1$  adjacent to  $i_2, \dots, i_k$

$$\Pr \left[ A_{i_1} \mid \overline{A_{i_2}} \cdots \overline{A_{i_m}} \right] = \frac{\Pr \left[ A_{i_1} \overline{A_{i_2}} \cdots \overline{A_{i_k}} \mid \overline{A_{i_{k+1}}} \cdots \overline{A_{i_m}} \right]}{\Pr \left[ \overline{A_{i_2}} \cdots \overline{A_{i_k}} \mid \overline{A_{i_{k+1}}} \cdots \overline{A_{i_m}} \right]}$$

$$\leq \Pr \left[ A_{i_1} \mid \overline{A_{i_{k+1}}} \cdots \overline{A_{i_m}} \right] = \Pr \left[ A_{i_1} \right] \leq x_{i_1} \prod_{j=2}^k (1 - x_{i_j})$$

$$= \prod_{j=2}^k \Pr \left[ \overline{A_{i_j}} \mid \overline{A_{i_{j+1}}} \cdots \overline{A_{i_m}} \right] = \prod_{j=2}^k \left( 1 - \Pr \left[ A_{i_j} \mid \overline{A_{i_{j+1}}} \cdots \overline{A_{i_m}} \right] \right)$$

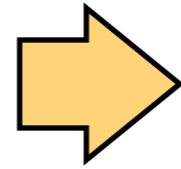
$$\text{I.H.} \geq \prod_{j=2}^k (1 - x_{i_j})$$

events:  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$

## General Lovász Local Lemma

$$\exists x_1, \dots, x_n \in [0, 1)$$

$$\forall i, \Pr[A_i] \leq x_i \prod_{j \sim i} (1 - x_j)$$



$$\Pr \left[ \bigwedge_{i=1}^n \overline{A_i} \right] \geq \prod_{i=1}^n (1 - x_i)$$

$$\Pr \left[ A_{i_1} \mid \overline{A_{i_2}} \cdots \overline{A_{i_m}} \right] \leq x_{i_1} \text{ for any } \{i_1, \dots, i_m\}$$

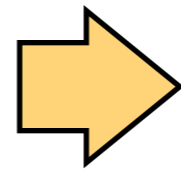
$$\begin{aligned} \Pr \left[ \bigwedge_{i=1}^n \overline{A_i} \right] &= \prod_{i=1}^n \Pr \left[ \overline{A_i} \mid \bigwedge_{j=1}^{i-1} \overline{A_j} \right] = \prod_{i=1}^n \left( 1 - \Pr \left[ A_i \mid \bigwedge_{j=1}^{i-1} \overline{A_j} \right] \right) \\ &\geq \prod_{i=1}^n (1 - x_i) > 0 \end{aligned}$$

events:  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$

$d$  : max degree of dependency graph

### Lovász Local Lemma

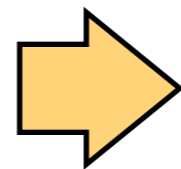
- $\forall i, \Pr[A_i] \leq p$
- $ep(d+1) \leq 1$



$$\Pr \left[ \bigwedge_{i=1}^n \overline{A_i} \right] > 0$$

### General Lovász Local Lemma

$$\begin{aligned} &\exists x_1, \dots, x_n \in [0, 1) \\ &\forall i, \Pr[A_i] \leq x_i \prod_{j \sim i} (1 - x_j) \end{aligned}$$



$$\Pr \left[ \bigwedge_{i=1}^n \overline{A_i} \right] \geq \prod_{i=1}^n (1 - x_i)$$



# Constraint Satisfaction Problem (CSP)

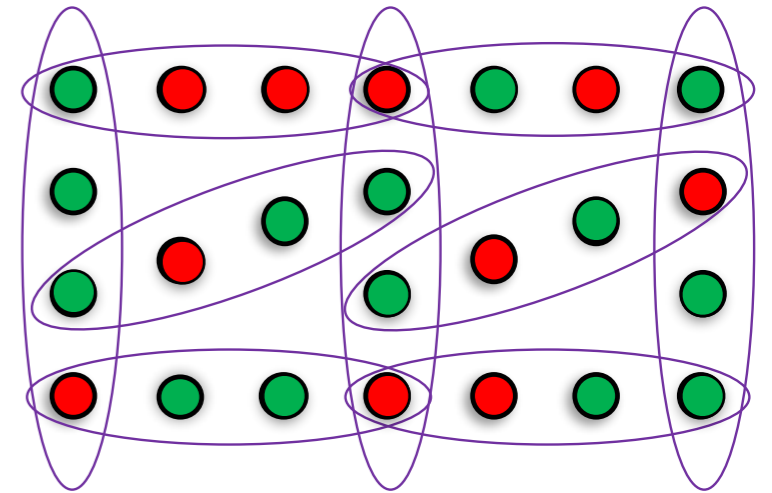
- Variables:  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in [q]$
- (local) Constraints:  $C_1, \dots, C_m$ 
  - each  $C_i$  is defined on a subset  $\text{vbl}(C_i)$  of variables

$$C_i : [q]^{\text{vbl}(C_i)} \rightarrow \{\text{True}, \text{False}\}$$

- Any  $x \in [q]^n$  is a CSP solution if it satisfies all  $C_1, \dots, C_m$
- Examples:
  - $k$ -CNF, (hyper)graph coloring, set cover, unique games...
  - vertex cover, independent set, matching, perfect matching, ...

# Hypergraph Coloring

- $k$ -uniform hypergraph  $H = (V, E)$ :
  - $V$  is vertex set,  $E \subseteq \binom{V}{k}$  is set of hyperedges
- **degree** of vertex  $v \in V$ : # of hyperedges  $e \ni v$



- **proper  $q$ -coloring** of  $H$ :
  - $f: V \rightarrow [q]$  such that no hyperedge is *monochromatic*

$$\forall e \in E, \quad |f(e)| > 1$$

**Theorem:** For any  $k$ -uniform hypergraph  $H$  of max-degree  $\Delta$ ,

$$\Delta \leq \frac{q^{k-1}}{ek} \implies H \text{ is } q\text{-colorable}$$

$$k \geq \log_q \Delta + \log_q \log_q \Delta + O(1)$$

# Hypergraph Coloring

**Theorem:** For any  $k$ -uniform hypergraph  $H$  of max-degree  $\Delta$ ,

$$\Delta \leq \frac{q^{k-1}}{ek} \implies H \text{ is } q\text{-colorable}$$

- Uniformly and independently color each  $v \in V$  a random color  $\in [q]$
- Bad event  $A_e$  for each hyperedge  $e \in E \subseteq \binom{V}{k}$ :  $e$  is monochromatic
  - $\Pr[A_e] \leq p = q^{1-k}$
- Dependency degree for bad events  $d \leq k(\Delta - 1)$ 
  - $\Delta \leq \frac{q^{k-1}}{ek} \implies ep(d + 1) \leq 1$  **Apply LLL**