

# Regularity Lemma and its applications

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# The PLAN (?)

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- Generalized Random Graph Sequences

- $\varepsilon$ -regular pairs

- Generalized Quasi-Random Sequences

- The Szemerédi Regularity Lemma

- Why do we like Szemerédi Regularity Lemma?

- Cluster graph

- Applications:  $\mathbf{RT}(n, K_4) \leq \frac{1}{8}n^2 + o(n^2)$

- Removal Lemma

- Ruzsa-Szemerédi Theorem, and its importance

- **The plan was** to prove  $r_k(n) = o(n^2)$ , using Extremal Hypergraph Theory

- but **TIM GOWERS** cam!

# Extensions

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● Sparse Regularity Lemmas: KOHAYAKAWA-RÖDL

● Weak Hypergraph Regularity Lemmas: FRANKL-RÖDL

● Strong Hypergraph Regularity Lemmas:  
RÖDL-NAGLE-SKOKAN-SCHACHT

TIM GOWERS

● and some newer ones,

TAO ...

# Skipping, among others:

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- Algorithmic aspects
- Connections to Property testing
- Weak Regularity Lemma **FRIEZE-KANNAN**, ...

# Szemerédi Regularity Lemma

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- Origins/connections to the existence of arithmetic progressions in dense sequences
- Connection to the quantitative **ERDŐS-STONE** theorem
- First graph theoretic applications  
(**RUZSA-SZEMERÉDI** theorem, Ramsey-**Turán** problems)
- **Counting lemma, removal lemma**, coloured regularity lemma

# Regularity Lemma, Regular Partitions

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Given  $G$ , with  $X$  and  $Y$ , the edge-density between  $X$  and  $Y$  is

$$d(X, Y) := \frac{e(X, Y)}{|X||Y|}.$$

# Regular pairs

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Regular pairs are highly uniform bipartite graphs, namely ones in which the density of any reasonably sized subgraph is about the same as the overall density of the graph.

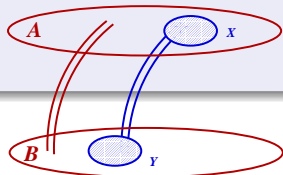
## Definition ( $\epsilon$ -regular set-pairs)

Let  $\epsilon > 0$ . Given a graph  $G$  and two disjoint vertex sets  $A \subset V$ ,  $B \subset V$ , we say that the pair  $(A, B)$  is  $\epsilon$ -regular if for every  $X \subset A$  and  $Y \subset B$  satisfying

$$|X| > \epsilon|A| \text{ and } |Y| > \epsilon|B|$$

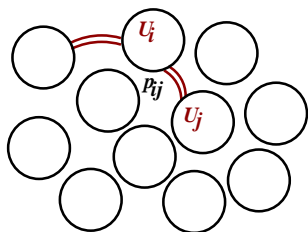
we have

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



In random graphs this holds for large disjoint vertex sets

# Generalized random graphs



Given a probability matrix  $A := (p_{ij})_{r \times r}$  and integer  $n_1, \dots, n_r$ .

- We choose the subsets  $U_1, \dots, U_r$  and join  $x \in U_i$  to  $y \in U_j$  with probability  $p_{ij}$  **independently**.
- Regularity Lemma: the graphs can be approximated by generalized random graphs well.



# The Regularity Lemma

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The Regularity Lemma says that

- every dense graph can be partitioned into a small number of regular pairs and a few leftover edges.

- Since regular pairs behave as random bipartite graphs in many ways, the R.L. provides us with an approximation of an arbitrary dense graph with the union of a constant number of random-looking bipartite graphs.

# Regularity Lemma

## Theorem (Szemerédi, 1978)

For every  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $m$  there are  $M(\varepsilon, m)$  and  $N(\varepsilon, m)$  with the following property: for every graph  $G$  with  $n \geq N(\varepsilon, m)$  vertices there is a partition of the vertex set into  $k$  classes

$$V = V_1 + V_2 + \dots + V_k$$

such that

- $m \leq k \leq M(\varepsilon, m)$ ,
- $||V_i| - |V_j|| < 1$ , ( $1 \leq i < j \leq k$ )
- all but at most  $\varepsilon k^2$ , of the pairs  $(V_i, V_j)$  are  $\varepsilon$ -regular.

See

→ SzemRegu, KomSim

## The role of $m$

is to make the classes  $V_i$  sufficiently small, so that the number of edges inside those classes are negligible. Hence, the following is an alternative form of the R.L.

### Theorem (Regularity Lemma – alternative form)

For every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists an  $M(\varepsilon)$  such that the vertex set of any  $n$ -graph  $G$  can be partitioned into  $k$  sets  $V_1, \dots, V_k$ , for some  $k \leq M(\varepsilon)$ , so that

- $|V_i| \leq \lceil \varepsilon n \rceil$  for every  $i$ ,
- $||V_i| - |V_j|| \leq 1$  for all  $i, j$ ,
- $(V_i, V_j)$  is  $\varepsilon$ -regular in  $G$  for all but at most  $\varepsilon k^2$  pairs  $(i, j)$ .

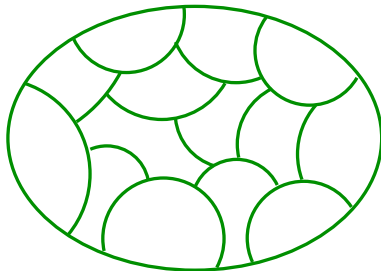
For  $e(G_n) = o(n^2)$ , the Regularity Lemma becomes trivial.

# How to prove Regularity Lemma?

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- Use the Defect form of Cauchy-Schwarz.
- Index:

$$I(\mathcal{P}) = \frac{1}{k^2} \sum d(V_i, V_j)^2 < \frac{1}{2}.$$



- Improving the partition

# Defect form of the Cauchy-Schwarz

## Lemma (Improved Cauchy-Schwarz inequality)

If for the integers  $0 < m < n$ ,

$$\sum_{k=1}^m X_k = \frac{m}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n X_k + \delta,$$

then

$$\sum_{k=1}^n X_k^2 \geq \frac{1}{n} \left( \sum_{k=1}^n X_k \right)^2 + \frac{\delta^2 n}{m(n-m)}.$$

# Coloured Regularity Lemma

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- If we have several colours, say, Black, Blue, Red, then we have a Szemerédi partition good for each colour simultaneously.
- How to apply this?

# Counting Lemma

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Through a simplified example:

- If the Generalized Random Graph corresponding to  $G_n$  contains many copies of  $L$ , then  $G_n$  also contains many (approximately the same number of copies of  $L$ )
- If the reduced graph contains an  $L$  then  $G_n$  contains at least  $cn^{v(L)}$  copies of  $L$ .

# Clusters, Reduced Graph

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The classes  $V_i$  will be called **groups** or **clusters**.

Given an arbitrary graph  $G = (V, E)$ , a partition  $P$  of the vertex-set  $V$  into  $V_1, \dots, V_k$ , and two parameters  $\varepsilon, d$ , we define the **Reduced Graph** (or **Cluster Graph**)  $R$  as follows: its vertices are the clusters  $V_1, \dots, V_k$  and  $V_i$  is joined to  $V_j$  if  $(V_i, V_j)$  is  $\varepsilon$ -regular with density more than  $d$ .

Most applications of the Regularity Lemma use Reduced Graphs, and they depend upon the fact that many properties of  $R$  are inherited by  $G$ .



# Inheritance

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$G_n$  inherits the properties of the cluster graph  $H_k$ .

- sometimes in an improved form!

Through a simplified example:

- If  $H_k$  contains a  $C_7$  then  $G_n$  contains many:  $cn^7$ .

# Ramsey-Turán problems

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## Theorem (Szemerédi)

→ SzemRT If  $G_n$  does not contain  $K_4$  and  $\alpha(G_n) = o(n)$  then

$$e(G_n) = \frac{n^2}{8} + o(n^2).$$

How to prove this?

- Use Regularity Lemma
- Show that the reduced graph does not contain  $K_3$ .
- Show that the reduced graph does not contain

$$d(V_i, V_j) > \frac{1}{2} + \epsilon$$

# Szemerédi-Ruzsa

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$$f(n, 6, 3)$$

# Removal Lemma

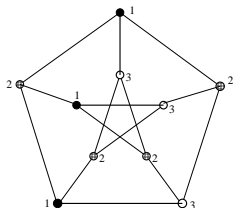
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Originally for  $K_3$ , RUZSA-SZEMERÉDI

Generally: through a simplified example:

For every  $\epsilon > 0$  there is a  $\delta = \delta(\epsilon) \rightarrow 0, \delta > 0$ :

If a  $G_n$  does not contain  $\delta n^{10}$  copies of the Petersen graph, then we can delete  $\epsilon n^2$  edges to destroy all the Petersen subgraphs.

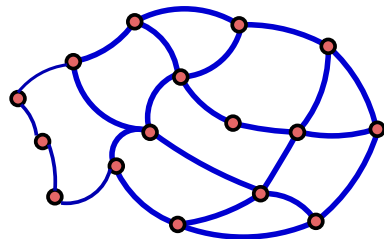
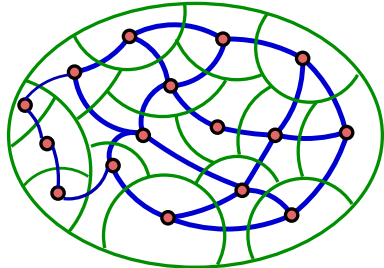
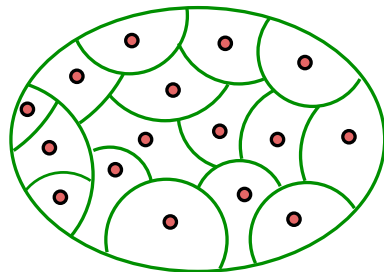
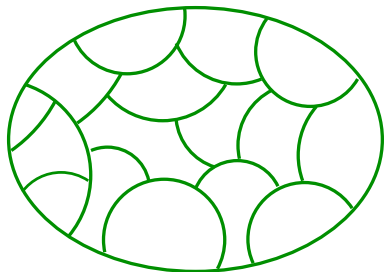


something similar is applicable in PROPERTY TESTING.

# The Cluster graph, illustrated:

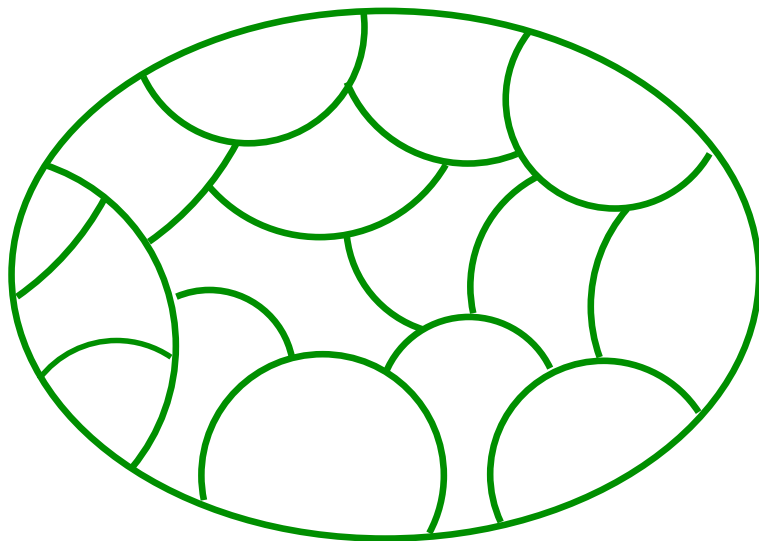
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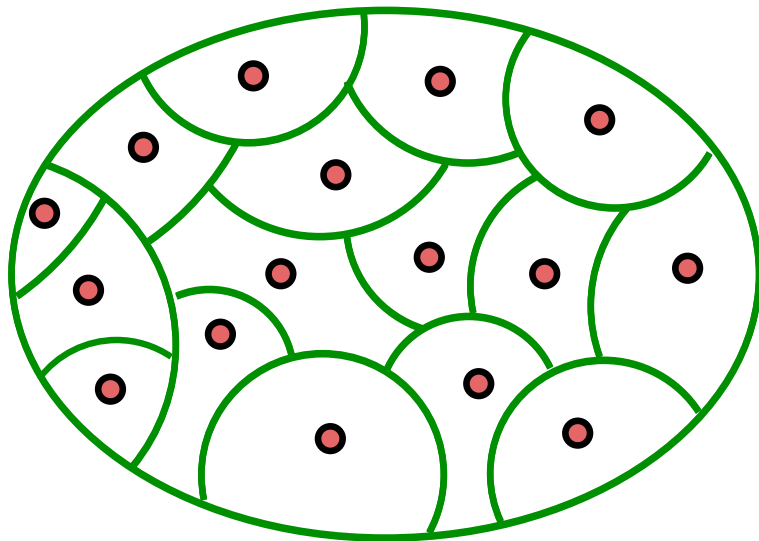
# The Cluster graph, illustrated:

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# The Cluster graph, illustrated:

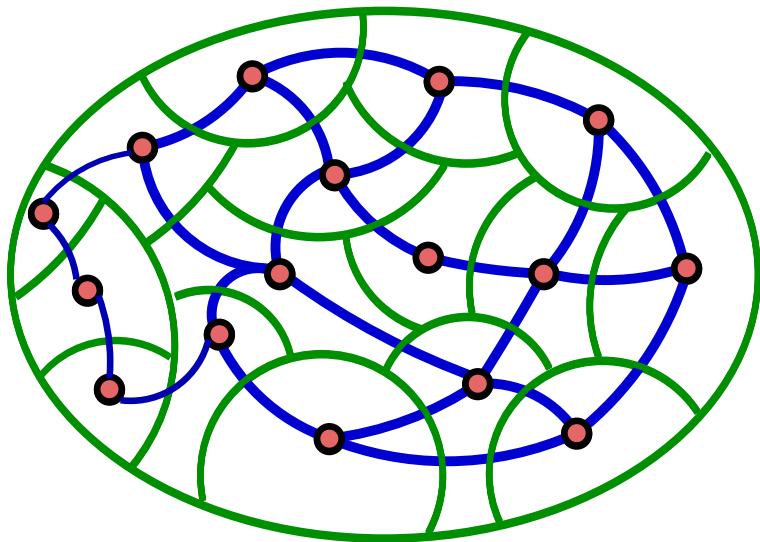
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# The Cluster graph, illustrated:

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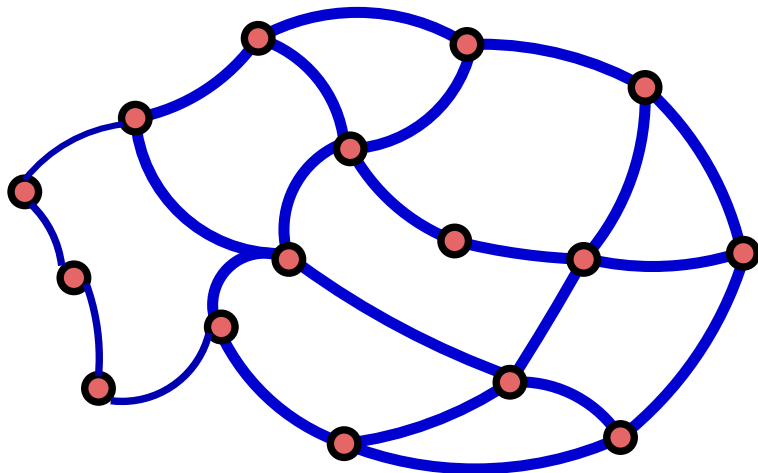




# The Cluster graph, illustrated:

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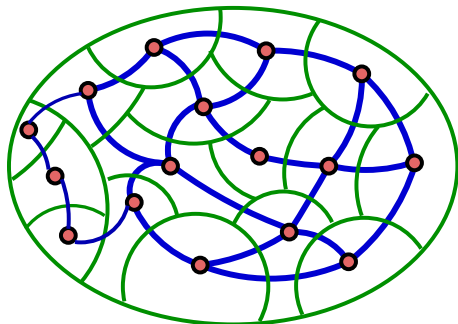
# Encoding? Logarithm? Generating function?

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- Original Graph, satisfying some  $\mathcal{P}$ .
- Cluster graph  $H_k$  satisfying some  $\mathcal{P}'$  and having proportionally many edges
- Solving the corresponding problem for  $H_k$
- Translating the result for  $G_n$

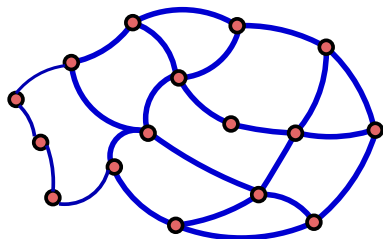
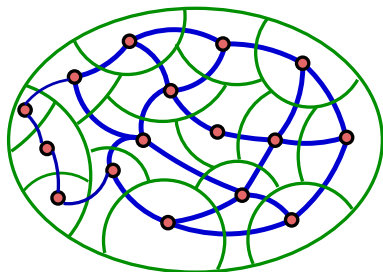
# How to prove Erdős-Stone?



- No  $K_{p+1}$  in the Reduced graph  $H_k$
- Apply Turán's theorem
- Estimate the edges of the original graph:

$$e(G_n) \leq e(H_k)m^2 + 3\epsilon n^2.$$

# How to prove Stability?



- No  $K_{p+1}$  in the Reduced graph  $H_k$
- Apply Turán's theorem with stability (Füredi)
- Estimate the edges of the original graph

# Babai-Sim.-Spencer

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The largest  $K_3$  subgraph of a Random graph is its largest bipartite subgraph

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DE MARCO—JEFF KAHN

# Various Regularity Lemmas

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- Original Ugly
- Original Nice
- Weak Regularity Lemma
  - Frieze-Kannan
  - Connections to Statistical approach
- Weak Hypergraph Regularity
- Good Hypergraph Regularity: Rödl, . . . Schacht, Gowers

# How to get rid of Regularity Lemma?

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- and why????
- The thresholds are too large
- But Regularity Lemma often makes the things transparent
  - See Luczak: Odd cycle Ramsey

# Blowup Lemma

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Komlós, G. Sárközy, Szemerédi:

→ KSSzBlowUp

Good to prove the existence of spanning subgraphs

● Pósa-Seymour conjecture,...

$(A, B)$  is  $(\epsilon, \delta)$ -**super-regular** if for every  $X \subset A$  and  $Y \subset B$  satisfying

$$|X| > \epsilon|A| \text{ and } |Y| > \epsilon|B|$$

we have

$$e(X, Y) > \delta|X||Y|,$$

and

$$\deg(a) > \delta|B| \text{ for all } a \in A,$$

$$\text{and } \deg(b) > \delta|A| \text{ for all } b \in B.$$



# Blowup Lemma II

## Theorem

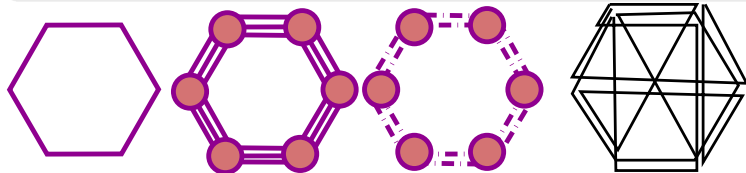
Given a graph  $R_r$  and  $\delta, \Delta > 0$ , there exists an  $\epsilon > 0$  such that the following holds.  $N =$  arbitrary positive integer,

- replace the vertices of  $R$  with pairwise disjoint  $N$ -sets  $V_1, V_2, \dots, V_r$ .

- Construct two graphs on the same  $V = \cup V_i$ .  $R(N)$  is obtained by replacing all edges of  $R$  with copies of  $K_{N,N}$ ,

- and a sparser graph  $G$  is constructed by replacing the edges of  $R$  with  $(\epsilon, \delta)$ -super-regular pairs.

If  $H$  with  $\Delta(H) \leq \Delta$  is embeddable into  $R(N)$  then it is already embeddable into  $G$ .



# Other Regularity Lemmas

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- FRIEZE-KANNAN

Background in statistics, more applicable in algorithms

- LOVÁSZ-B. SZEGEDY: Limit objects, continuous version

- ALON-FISCHER-KRIVELEVICH-M. SZEGEDY:

Used for property testing

- ALON-SHAPIRA: property testing is equivalent to using Regularity Lemma

# Szemerédi's Lemma for the Analyst

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This is the title of a paper of **L. LOVÁSZ** and **B. SZEGEDY**  
Hilbert spaces, compactness, covering

# Hypergraph regularity lemmas

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- Frankl-Rödl
- Frankl-Rödl 2.
- F. Chung
- A. Steger
- Rödl, Skokan, Nagle, Schacht, . . .
- Gowers, Tao, . . .

Many thanks for your attention.