

MS-E1050

Ragnar  
Freij-Hollanti

0: Introductions

1–2: Basics

3: Matchings

4: Connectivity

5: Planarity

6: Colourings

7: Perfection

8: Randomness

9: Extremality

10: Ramsey

# MS-E1050

## Graph Theory

Ragnar Freij-Hollanti

October 13, 2022

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- **Instructor:**

Ragnar Freij-Hollanti, `ragnar.freij@aalto.fi`

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# Schedule

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- **Lectures:**  
Thursdays 16-18, M1 **and** Fridays 10-12, Y405.
- **Exercise sessions:**  
Mondays 10-12, Y307 **or** Zoom.

# Grading

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- Five homework sheets, due Mondays 19.9., 26.9., 3.10., 10.10., and Wednesday 19.10.
- Returned in the Assignments folder on MyCourses.
- Graded by two of your peers (randomly selected). Grades are due one week after the assignment deadline.
- Each homework sheet gives a maximum of  $5 \cdot 2$  for exercises +  $2 \cdot 5$  for problems + 5 for grading = 25 points.
- The four best homeworks count towards the final grade.

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- **Reinhard Diestel:** *Graph Theory*.
- **Matthias Beck and Rayman Sanyal:** *Combinatorial Reciprocity Theorems*.
- **Slides** Updated on course homepage after every lecture.

# Course content

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You will learn *about*:

- the twelve topics mentioned in the left hand menu.
- combinatorial, geometrical, algorithmic, probabilistic, and algebraic aspects of graph theory.

You will learn *to*:

- Solve combinatorial problems of different kinds.
- Relate different mathematical topics to each other.

# Discuss in small groups (10-15 minutes):

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- What is your name?
- What is your quest?
- What is your favourite colour?
- Select a chairman! Preferably one who can share their screen and draw on it.
- How would you define what a graph is?

# Definitions

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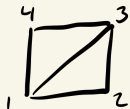
8: Randomness

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- A graph is a pair  $G = (V, E)$ .
- $V$  is a set of *vertices* or *nodes*
  - $E \subseteq \{\{x, y\} : x, y \in V\}$  is a set of *edges* (undirected graph).  
or
  - $E \subseteq \{(x, y) : x, y \in V\}$  is a set of *directed edges* (digraph).
    - $y$  is the *head* and  $x$  is the *tail* of the directed edge  $(x, y)$ .
- $|G| = |V| = n$  and  $\|G\| = |E| = m$

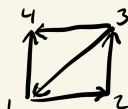
UNDIRECTED



$$V = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

$$E = \{\{1,2\}, \{1,3\}, \{2,3\}, \{3,4\}, \{4,1\}\}$$

DIRECTED



$$V = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

$$E = \{(1,2), (1,3), (2,3), (3,4), (4,1)\}$$



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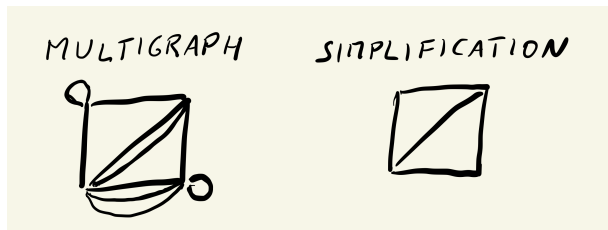
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- If  $G = (V, E)$ , then we also write (abusing notation)  $V = V(G)$  and  $E = E(G)$ .
- If we allow  $E(G)$  to be a *multiset* (i.e. repeated elements allowed), then  $G$  is a *multigraph*.
- A *loop* is an edge  $\{x, x\}$  (or a directed edge  $(x, x)$ ).
- If  $G$  is not a multigraph, and  $x \neq y$  for all edges  $\{x, y\} \in E(G)$ , then  $G$  is a *simple graph*.



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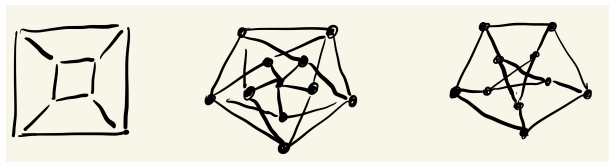
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- $G$  is *finite* if  $V(G)$  and  $E(G)$  are finite sets (or multisets).
- In this course, unless explicitly mentioned, all graphs are simple and finite and undirected.



- $G$  is *bipartite* if  $V(G) = A \cup B$  where  $A \cap B = \emptyset$  and  $E(G) \subseteq \{xy : x \in A, y \in B\}$ .



# Discuss in small groups (10-15 minutes):

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- What are some use cases (examples from science or real life) of bipartite graphs?
- Does any (or all) of you know what a *cycle* in a graph is? Explain to the others!
- What can you say about the cycles in a bipartite graph?
- For a graph without an explicit bipartition of its vertices, can you think of an *efficient* way to see if it is bipartite or not?

# Bipartite graphs

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# Complete graphs

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## Example

- The *complete graph*  $K_n = (V, E)$  where

$$|V| = n \text{ and } E = \binom{V}{2} = \{e \subseteq V : |e| = 2\}.$$

- The *complete bipartite graph*  $K_{m,n} = (A \cup B, E)$ , where

$$|A| = m, |B| = n, A \cap B = \emptyset \text{ and } E = \{\{a, b\} : a \in A, b \in B\}.$$

- The *empty graph*  $\overline{K}_n = (V, \emptyset)$  where  $|V| = n$ .



# Substructures

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- A *clique* in  $G$  is a set  $Q \subseteq V(G)$  of pairwise adjacent nodes (so  $G[Q]$  is complete).
- An *independent* (or *stable*) set in  $G$  is a set  $S \subseteq V(G)$  of pairwise non-adjacent nodes (so  $G[S]$  is empty).



- The size of the largest clique in  $G$  is  $\omega(G)$ .
- The size of the largest independent in  $G$  is  $\alpha(G) = \omega(\overline{G})$ .

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- A (proper)  $k$ -colouring of  $G = (V, E)$  is a map  $\gamma : V \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$  such that  $\gamma(v) \neq \gamma(u)$  whenever  $uv \in E$ .



- The *chromatic number* of  $G = (V, E)$  is the smallest  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that there exists a  $k$ -colouring of  $G$ .
- In other words,  $\chi(G) = k$  is the smallest number of independent sets into which  $V(G)$  can be partitioned.

# Examples

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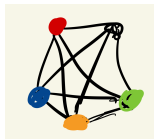
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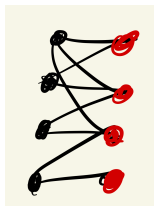
9: Extremality

10: Ramsey

- $\chi(K_n) = n.$



- $\chi(G) = 2$  if and only if  $G$  is bipartite.





# Discuss in small groups (10-15 minutes):

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- Each colour class in a graph colouring is an independence set.
- The vertices of a clique have to all get different colours.
- Using this: Bound the chromatic number  $\chi(G)$  from above in two different ways, in terms of  $\alpha(G)$ ,  $\omega(G)$ , and  $n$ ?
- Can you think of graphs for which these bounds are not tight?
- Do you think the bounds are tight for “most” graphs? And what does that even mean?

# Chromatic numbers

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- At any party, some pairs of people are friends, and others are not. Test your intuition. Are the following true or false?
- At a party with 5 guests, there are always either three mutual friends, or three mutual non-friends.
- What about a party with 6 guests?
- At a party with  $a + b$  guests, there are always either  $a$  mutual friends or  $b$  mutual non-friends.
- At any *large enough* party, there are always either  $a$  mutual friends or  $b$  mutual non-friends.
  - How many guests  $R(a, b)$  are needed, so that this holds for *all* parties?
  - How many guests are needed, so that this holds for *most* parties? And what does that even mean?

# Ramsey Theory

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# Conclusion

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- Today we have discussed some basic types of questions in graph theory.
- Some of these can be solved from first principles by clever high school students.
- Other questions require some sort of “theory” .
- Starting Thursday, we will develop combinatorial, probabilistic and algebraic tools to study graphs, and use those to solve problems.

# When are two graphs the same?

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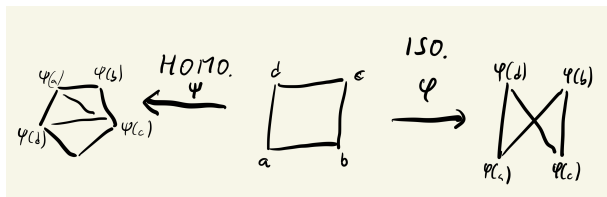
10: Ramsey

- A *homomorphism*  $G \rightarrow G'$  is a map  $\varphi : V(G) \rightarrow V(G')$  such that

$$\{u, v\} \in E(G) \Rightarrow \{\varphi(u), \varphi(v)\} \in E(G').$$

- An *isomorphism*  $G \rightarrow G'$  is a *bijection*  $\varphi : V(G) \rightarrow V(G')$  such that

$$\{u, v\} \in E(G) \Leftrightarrow \{\varphi(u), \varphi(v)\} \in E(G').$$



# When are two graphs the same?

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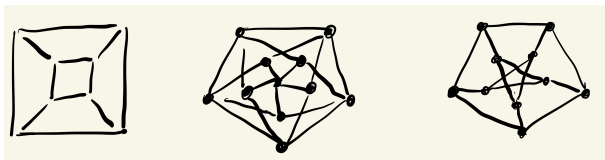
9: Extremality

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- An *isomorphism*  $G \rightarrow G'$  is a *bijection*  $\varphi : V(G) \rightarrow V(G')$  such that

$$\{u, v\} \in E(G) \Leftrightarrow \{\varphi(u), \varphi(v)\} \in E(G').$$

- If there is an isomorphism  $G \rightarrow G'$ , then  $G$  and  $G'$  are *isomorphic*.
- This is an equivalence relation on graphs.
- An “unlabelled graph” is an equivalence class of graphs under this isomorphism relation.



# Terminology

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- Vertices  $x$  and  $y$  are *adjacent* if  $\{x, y\} \in E$ .
- The vertex  $x$  is *incident* to the edge  $e$  if  $x \in e$ .
- The edges  $e$  and  $e'$  are adjacent if  $e \cap e' \neq \emptyset$ .
- The (open) *neighbourhood*  $N(v) = \{u \in V : \{v, u\} \in E\}$ .
- The *degree*  $d(v) = |N(v)|$  is the number of neighbours of  $v$  (in a simple graph).



# Degrees

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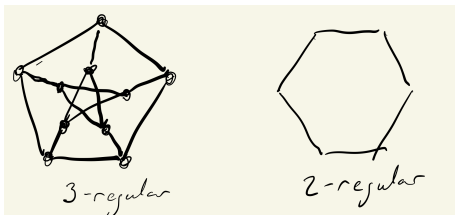
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- Minimal degree  $\delta(G) = \min_{v \in V(G)} d(v)$ .
- Maximal degree  $\Delta(G) = \max_{v \in V(G)} d(v)$ .
- Average degree

$$d(G) = \frac{1}{|V(G)|} \sum_{v \in V(G)} d(v) = \frac{2\|G\|}{|G|}.$$

- If all vertices have the same degree  $k$ , so  $\delta(G) = \Delta(G)$ , then  $G$  is  $k$ -regular.



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## Proposition

*In any graph  $G$ , the number of vertices with odd degree is even.*

## Proof.

■ Blackboard



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- The integer sequence  $(d_1, \dots, d_n) \in \mathbb{N}^n$  is *graphical* if there exists a graph  $G$  with  $V(G) = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$  and  $d(v_i) = d_i$ .

## Theorem (Havel, Hakimi 1955)

Assume  $d_1 \geq d_2 \geq \dots \geq d_n \geq 0$ . Then the sequence  $(d_1, \dots, d_n)$  is graphical if and only if

- $n = 1$  and  $d_1 = 0$ , or
- $(d_2 - 1, d_3 - 1, d_{d_1+1} - 1, d_{d_1+2}, \dots, d_n)$  is a graphical sequence.

## Proof.

- Blackboard □

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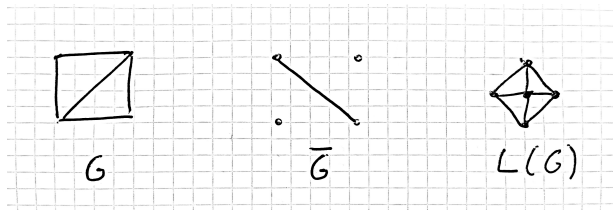
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- The complement graph of  $G$  is

$$\overline{G} = \left( V(G), \binom{V(G)}{2} \setminus E(G) \right).$$

- The line graph of  $G$  is

$$L(G) = (E(G), \{\{e, e'\} : e \cap e' \neq \emptyset\}).$$



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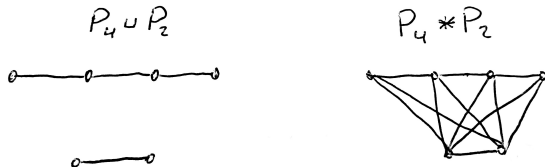
9: Extremality

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- The disjoint union of two graphs  $G$  and  $H$  is

$$G \sqcup H = (V(G) \sqcup V(H), E(G) \sqcup E(H)).$$

- The *join* of  $G$  and  $H$  has  $G \sqcup H$  as a subgraph, and in addition an edge  $xy$  for all  $x \in V(G)$ ,  $y \in V(H)$ .



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- The disjoint union of two non-empty graphs is always disconnected.
- The join of two non-empty graphs is always connected.
- $K_n \star K_m \cong K_{n+m}$  and  $\overline{K_n} \star \overline{K_m} \cong K_{n,m}$

# Substructures

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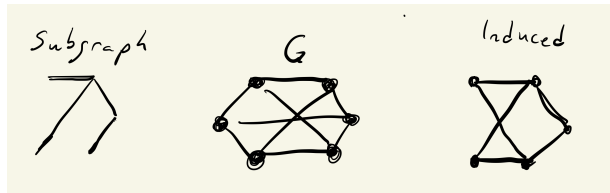
9: Extremality

10: Ramsey

- $H$  is a *subgraph* of  $G$  if  $V(H) \subseteq V(G)$  and  $E(H) \subseteq E(G)$ .
- $H$  is an *induced subgraph* of  $G$  if  $V(H) \subseteq V(G)$  and

$$E(H) = E(G) \cap \binom{V(H)}{2}.$$

- If  $H$  is an induced subgraph of  $G$ , with  $V(H) = U$ , then we say that  $H$  is *induced on  $U$* , and write  $H = G[U]$ .



# Walks and paths

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- A *walk* of length  $n$  in  $G = (V, E)$  is a sequence  $(v_0, v_1, \dots, v_n)$  of nodes  $v_i \in V$  where  $\{v_{i-1}, v_i\} \in E(G)$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .
- A walk  $(v_0, v_1, \dots, v_n)$  is *closed* if  $v_0 = v_n$ .
- A *path* of length  $n$  in  $G$  is a subgraph

$$(\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}, \{v_1v_2, \dots, v_{n-1}v_n\}) \subseteq G$$

with all vertices distinct.

- So  $(v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n)$  is a non-revisiting walk of length  $n - 1$ .
- A path  $(x, v_1, \dots, v_{n-1}, y)$  is an  $x$ - $y$ -*path*, often denoted  $x \text{---} y$ .



# Closed walks and cycles

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- A walk  $(v_0, v_1, \dots, v_n)$  is *closed* if  $v_0 = v_n$ .
- A *cycle* of length  $n$  in  $G$  is a subgraph

$$(\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}, \{v_1 v_2, \dots, v_{n-1} v_n, v_n v_1\}) \subseteq G$$

with all vertices distinct.

- So  $(v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n, v_1)$  is a minimal closed walk of length  $n$ .

# Paths

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- Let  $A, B \subseteq V(G)$ , and let  $H$  be a subgraph of  $G$ .
- An  $A - -B$ -path is a path

$$(\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}, \{v_1 v_2, \dots, v_{n-1}, v_n\}) \subseteq G$$

where  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\} \cap A = \{v_1\}$  and  
 $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\} \cap B = \{v_n\}$

- Note: If  $A \cap B \neq \emptyset$ , then there exist  $A - -B$ -paths of length 1.
- A  $H$ -path is a path

$$(\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}, \{v_1 v_2, \dots, v_{n-1}, v_n\}) \subseteq G$$

where  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\} \cap V(H) = \{v_1, v_n\}$ .

# Paths and cycles

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10: Ramsey

- The *girth*  $g(G)$  is the minimum length of a cycle in  $G$ .
- The *circumference* of  $G$  is the maximum length of a cycle in  $G$ .
- The *distance*  $d_G(x, y)$  is the length of the shortest  $x - y$ -path in  $G$ 
  - This notion of distance is a *metric*:

$$d_G(x, y) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = y$$

$$d_G(x, z) \leq d_G(x, y) + d_G(y, z)$$

# Paths and cycles

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- The *diameter* of  $G$  is

$$\max_{x,y \in V(G)} d_G(x,y).$$

- The *radius* of  $G$  is

$$\min_{x \in V(G)} \max_{y \in V(G)} d(x,y).$$

- A vertex  $x \in V(G)$  that minimizes

$$\max_{y \in V(G)} d(x,y)$$

is called a *central* vertex.

# Exercise during the break

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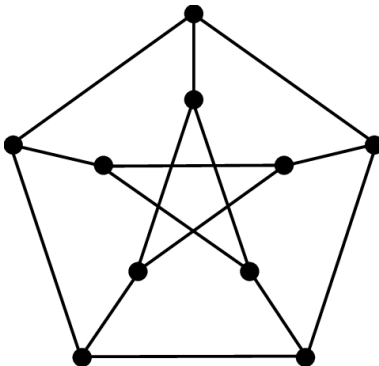
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- Compute the girth, circumference, diameter and radius of the Petersen graph.



# Paths and cycles

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## Proposition

*Every graph  $G$  with  $\delta(G) \geq 2$  contains a cycle of length at least  $\delta(G) + 1$ .*

## Proof.

- Blackboard



# Euler tours

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- An Euler tour in a graph is a closed walk that traverses every edge in  $G$  exactly once.
- “Motivation”: Can one take a walk across all the bridges in Königsberg without going over any bridge more than once?



# Euler tours

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## Proposition

*A connected graph  $G$  has an Euler tour if and only if every vertex in  $G$  has even degree.*

## Proof.

- $\Rightarrow$ : Orient each edge according to which direction the Euler tour traverses it.
- Then every node has the same indegree as outdegree, so even total degree.
- $\Leftarrow$ : Induction on the number of edges. (Blackboard.) □



# Bipartite graphs

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## Lemma

*$G$  is bipartite if and only if  $G$  has no odd cycles.*

## Proof.

- $\Rightarrow$ : Proved in an exercise last time.
- $\Leftarrow$ : Suffices to prove it for connected graphs. Assume for a contradiction  $G$  is connected and has no odd cycles.
- A minimal odd length closed path is a cycle, so  $G$  has no odd length closed paths.



# Bipartite graphs

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## Lemma

*$G$  is bipartite if and only if  $G$  has no odd cycles.*

## Proof.

- $\Leftarrow$ : We assumed for a contradiction  $G$  is connected and has no odd length closed paths.
- Fix  $v \in V(G)$ , and define

$$A = \{y \in V(G) : d_G(x, y) \text{ is even}\}$$

$$B = \{y \in V(G) : d_G(x, y) \text{ is odd}\}.$$

- If there were an edge  $xy$  between two nodes in the same part, then  $v-x-y-v$  would be a closed walk of odd length.
- Contradiction, so  $(A, B)$  is a bipartition of  $V(G)$ . □

# Bipartite graphs

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## Lemma

*$G$  is bipartite if and only if  $G$  has no induced odd cycles.*

## Proof.

- $\Rightarrow$ : Follows from the previous lemma.
- $\Leftarrow$ : Assume  $G$  is not bipartite, yet has no induced odd cycle.
- Consider a minimal odd cycle  $C$  in  $G$ . (Exists because  $G$  is not bipartite.) Let  $e = \{x, y\}$  be an edge in  $G[V(C)] \setminus C$ .



- The cycle  $C$  contains two  $x$ - $y$ -paths  $P$  and  $Q$ .
- The cycles  $P + e$  and  $Q + e$  are shorter than  $C$ , and one of them is odd. Contradiction!

□

# Connectivity

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- A graph is *connected* if there is a path between any pair of nodes.
- The maximal connected subgraphs are the *connected components* of the graph.
- The connected components form a partition of the graph.

# Trees

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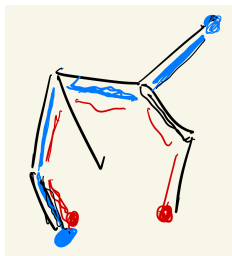
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10: Ramsey

- A connected graph without cycles is a *tree*.
- A node is a *leaf* if it only has one neighbour.
- Every tree with  $|T| \geq 2$  has at least two leaves. (endpoints on a maximal path).



# Trees

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- A connected graph without cycles is a *tree*.
- A graph without cycles is a *forest*
- Every forest is a disjoint union of trees. These are the connected components of the forest.



## Theorem

*The following are equivalent:*

- $T = (V, E)$  is a tree.
- For any  $u, v \in V$ , there is a unique  $u$ - $v$ -path in  $T$ .
- $T$  contains no cycle, and for any  $E \subsetneq F \subseteq \binom{V}{2}$ , the graph  $(V, F)$  contains a cycle.
- $T$  is connected, and for any  $F \subsetneq E$ , the graph  $(V, F)$  is disconnected.

## Proof.

- Exercise □

# Spanning trees

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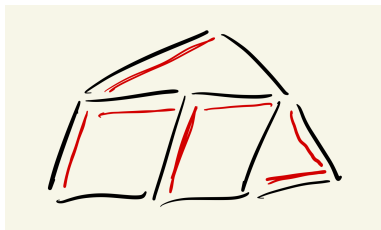
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- A *spanning tree* in the connected graph  $(V, E)$  is a tree  $(V, E')$  that contains all the nodes and some of the edges  $E' \subseteq E$  of the graph.
- A spanning tree exists in any connected graph:
- Start from one node. Add one edge at a time between a node in the tree and a node not yet in the tree.
  - Notice: the spanning tree is not unique.



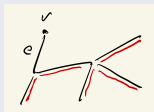


## Lemma

*A tree with  $n$  nodes has exactly  $n - 1$  edges.*

## Proof.

- By induction on  $n$ . Trivial base case  $n = 1$ .
- Assume  $|V| \geq 2$ , and let  $v \in V(T)$  be a leaf, with only outgoing edge  $e \in E(T)$ .
- Then  $(V \setminus \{v\}, E \setminus \{e\})$  is a tree with  $n - 1$  vertices and (by induction hypothesis)  $n - 2$  edges.
- So  $|E| = n - 1$ . □



# Rooted trees

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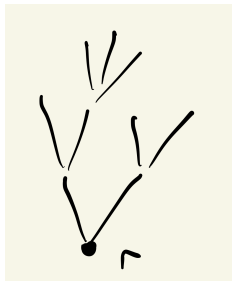
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- A *rooted tree* is a tree  $T$  with a distinguished node  $r$ . Then:
- The *level* of the node  $v$  is the length of the unique path  $(r, \dots, v)$ .
- The *tree order* associated to  $(T, r)$  is the partial order on  $V(T)$  given by  $v \leq u$  if the unique path from  $r$  to  $u$  goes through  $v$ .
- $r$  is the unique minimal element in the tree order.



# Normal trees

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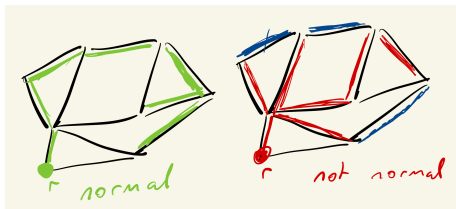
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- A rooted spanning tree  $(T, r)$  in  $G$  is called a *normal* tree if all edges in  $G$  go between comparable elements in the tree order.
- Normal trees are also called *depth first search* trees.
- Normal trees exist in every connected graph for any prescribed root.
- Constructed via depth first search.



# Edge spaces

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- Consider  $\mathbb{F}_2 = \{0, 1\}$  with addition  $1 + 1 = 0$ .
- Define the edge space (over  $\mathbb{F}_2$ )  $\mathcal{E}(G) = \{f : E(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_2\}$ .
- Identify the elements in  $\mathcal{E}(G)$  with subsets of  $E(G)$ .

■

$$\langle f, f' \rangle = \sum_{e \in E} f(e)f'(e) = |f \cap f'| \pmod{2}.$$

- $f + f'$  corresponds to the symmetric difference of the sets  $f$  and  $f'$ .

# Cycle spaces

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- The edge set of a cycle is called a *circuit*.
- The cycle space  $\mathcal{C}(G) \subseteq \mathcal{E}(G)$  is generated (over  $\mathbb{F}_2$ ) by the circuits in  $G$ .
- $F \in \mathcal{C}(G)$  iff and only if  $F$  is a *disjoint* union of circuits.
- $F \in \mathcal{C}(G)$  iff and only if every  $v \in V(G)$  has even degree in  $F$ .
- Proofs of these equivalences: Exercise.

# Cut spaces

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- If  $A \subseteq V(G)$ , the set of edges between  $A$  and  $\bar{A}$  is a *cut*.
- The cut space  $\mathcal{B}(G) \subseteq \mathcal{E}(G)$  is generated (over  $\mathbb{F}_2$ ) by the cuts in  $G$ .
- The symmetric difference of two cuts is a cut.
- So  $F \in \mathcal{C}(G)$  iff and only if  $F$  is itself a cut.

# Cut and cycle spaces

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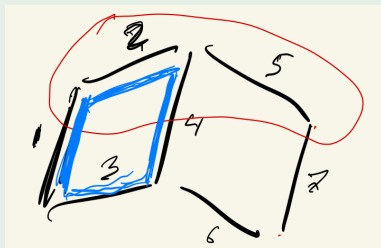
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8: Randomness

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10: Ramsey

## Example



- $c = \{1, 2, 3, 4\} \in \mathcal{C}(G)$ .
- $b = \{1, 4, 7\} \in \mathcal{B}(G)$ .
- $\langle b, c \rangle = |b \cap c| \pmod 2 = |\{1, 4\}| \pmod 2 = 0$

# Cut and cycle spaces

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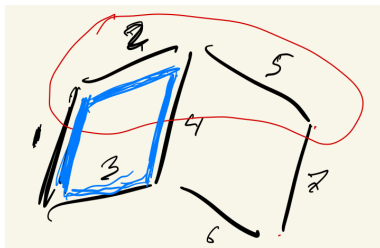
6: Colourings

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8: Randomness

9: Extremality

10: Ramsey



- A closed walk enters  $A$  equally many times as it leaves  $A$ .
- So a circuit  $c$  contains an even number of edges from every cut.
- So  $\mathcal{B}(G) \perp \mathcal{C}(G)$  as vector spaces over  $\mathbb{F}_2$ .
- Standard linear algebra gives

$$\dim \mathcal{B}(G) + \dim \mathcal{C}(G) \leq \dim \mathcal{E}(G) = m.$$

- We will show that equality holds, so  $\mathcal{B}(G) = \mathcal{C}(G)^\perp$ .



# Cut and cycle spaces

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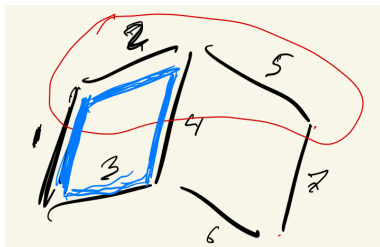
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10: Ramsey



- A closed walk enters  $A$  equally many times as it leaves  $A$ .
- So a circuit  $c$  contains an even number of edges from every cut.
- So  $\mathcal{B}(G) \perp \mathcal{C}(B)$  as vector spaces over  $\mathbb{F}_2$ .
- Standard linear algebra gives

$$\dim \mathcal{B}(G) + \dim \mathcal{C}(G) \leq \dim \mathcal{E}(G) = m.$$

- We will show that equality holds, so  $\mathcal{B}(G) = \mathcal{C}(G)^\perp$ .

# Cycle space dimension

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- Easy to check:

$$\mathcal{C}(G \sqcup H) = \mathcal{C}(G) \oplus \mathcal{C}(H) \text{ and } \mathcal{B}(G \sqcup H) = \mathcal{B}(G) \oplus \mathcal{B}(H).$$

- So assume  $G$  connected. Fix a spanning tree  $T \subseteq G$ .
- For each  $e = \{u, v\} \in E - T$ , consider the *fundamental cycle*

$$C_e = \{e\} \cup P_{uv},$$

where  $P_{uv}$  is the unique  $u - v$ -path in  $T$ .

- For every  $e \in E$ , the collection  $\{C_i : i \in E - T\}$  contains exactly one vector  $C = C_e$  for which  $C(e) = 1$ .
- Therefore, the vectors  $\{C_i : i \in E - T\}$  are linearly independent.
- So  $\dim(\mathcal{C}(G)) \geq |E - T| = m - (n - 1)$ .

# Cut space dimension

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- Assume  $G$  connected. Fix a rooted spanning tree  $T \subseteq G$ .
- For each  $e = \{u, v\} \in T$ , with  $v > u$  in the tree order, define  $A_e = \{w \in V : w \geq v\}$ .
- The cut  $B_e$  associated to  $A_e$  contains only one edge from  $T$ , namely  $e$ .
- Therefore, the vectors  $\{B_i : i \in T\}$  are linearly independent.
- So  $\dim(\mathcal{B}(G)) \geq |T| = n - 1 = m - \dim(\mathcal{C}(G))$ .
- It follows that  $\mathcal{B}(G)^\perp = \mathcal{C}(G)$ .

# Matchings in bipartite graphs

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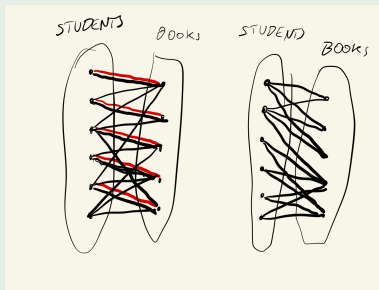
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## Example

- Six students have to do a group task, where they have to read five different books.
- Nobody has time to read more than one book.
- Moreover, not all students have access to all of the books.
- Can they divide the task so that all the books get read?



# Matchings in general graphs

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**3: Matchings**

4: Connectivity

5: Planarity

6: Colourings

7: Perfection

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9: Extremality

10: Ramsey

## Example

- In a collection of people, some pairs of people are willing to live happily ever after together, while some other pairs are not.
- Can we pair the population up so that everyone is together with someone they want to live with?



# Matchings

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6: Colourings

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9: Extremality

10: Ramsey

## Definition

- A *matching* in  $G$  is a collection  $M \subseteq E(G)$  of pairwise disjoint edges.
- A matching  $M$  is *maximal* if it is not contained in any other matching on  $G$
- A matching  $M$  is *complete on*  $A \subseteq V(G)$  if every vertex in  $A$  is in some edge of  $M$ .
- A matching  $M$  is *perfect* (or *complete*) if it is complete on  $V(G)$ .

## Definition

- A perfect matching on  $G$  is also called a  $1$ -factor.
- More generally, a  $k$ -factor on  $G$  is a spanning  $k$ -regular subgraph of  $G$ .
- In particular, a  $2$ -factor is a collection of pairwise disjoint cycles that cover the vertices of  $G$ .

# Vertex cover

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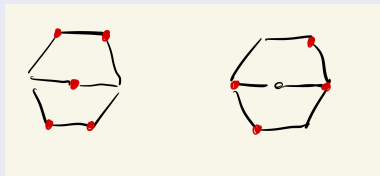
8: Randomness

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## Definition

- A vertex cover is a collection  $A \subseteq V(G)$  such that every edge in  $E(G)$  contains at least one vertex in  $A$ .
- A vertex cover is *minimal* if it does not contain any other vertex cover.





# Alternating paths

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10: Ramsey

## Definition

- Consider a bipartite graph  $G = (A \sqcup B, E)$  with a matching  $M$ .
- An *alternating path* with respect to  $M$  is a path

$$P = a_0, b_1, a_1, b_2, \dots, v$$

in  $G$  such that:

- $a_0$  is not matched in  $M$ .
- $\{a_i, b_i\} \in M$  for all  $i \geq 1$ .
- If the final vertex  $v$  of the path is unmatched, then  $P$  is an *augmenting path* with respect to  $M$ .

# Augmenting paths

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10: Ramsey

## Definition

- An *augmenting path* with respect to  $M$  is a path

$$P = a_0, b_1, a_1, b_2, \dots, a_k, b_{k+1}$$

in  $G$  such that:

- $a_0 \notin e$  for every  $e \in M$ .
- $\{a_i, b_i\} \in M$  for all  $i \geq 1$ .
- $b_k \notin e$  for every  $e \in M$ .

## Lemma

If  $P$  is an augmenting path with respect to a matching  $M$ , then

$$M' = M \setminus \{a_i b_i : 1 \leq i \leq k\} \cup \{a_i b_{i+1} : 0 \leq i \leq k\}$$

is a matching with  $|M'| = |M| + 1$ .

# König's Theorem

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10: Ramsey

## Theorem

- *In any bipartite graph  $(A \sqcup B, E)$ , the size of the largest matching equals the size of the smallest vertex cover.*

## Proof.

- $\leq$ : Every vertex cover contains at least one end of each edge in the matching.
- These ends must all be different.
- $\geq$ : Proof by alternating paths. (blackboard) □

# Another necessary condition

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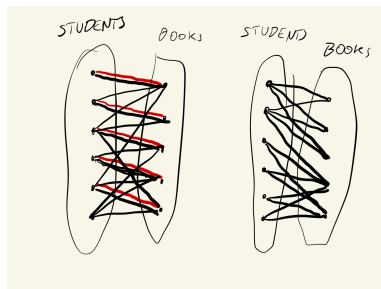
7: Perfection

8: Randomness

9: Extremality

10: Ramsey

- Assume there is a set  $S \in V(G)$  such that  $|N(S)| < |S|$ .
- Then there clearly can not be a complete matching on  $S$ , so not on  $G$  either.



# Hall's Marriage Theorem

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Freij-Hollanti

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1-2: Basics

3: Matchings

4: Connectivity

5: Planarity

6: Colourings

7: Perfection

8: Randomness

9: Extremality

10: Ramsey

## Theorem

- A bipartite graph  $(A \sqcup B, E)$  with  $|A| \leq |B|$  contains a complete matching if and only if  $|N(S)| \geq |S|$  for all  $S \subseteq A$ .

## Proof.

- $\Rightarrow$ : Trivial.
- $\Leftarrow$ : By induction on  $|A|$ . Obvious if  $|A| = 1$ .
- If  $|N(S)| > |S|$  for all  $S \subsetneq A$ ,  $ab \in E(G)$  be an arbitrary edge.
- Hall's condition holds for the smaller graph  $G' = G - \{a, b\}$ , so there is a complete matching  $M'$  on  $G'$ .
- Then  $M' \cup \{ab\}$  is a complete matching on  $G$ .

# Hall's Marriage Theorem

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← continued.

- Remains to assume  $|N(A')| = |A'|$  for some  $A' \subsetneq A$ .
- By induction, there is a complete matching on  $G' = G[A' \sqcup N(A')]$ .
- Now if  $S \subseteq A \setminus A'$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} |N(S) \setminus N(A')| &\geq |N(S \cup A')| - |N(A')| \\ &= |N(S \cup A')| - |A'| \geq |S \cup A'| - |A'| = |S|. \end{aligned}$$

- So  $G - G'$  also satisfies Hall's condition and has a complete matching.
- These two matchings together form a complete matching on  $G$ . □

# 1-factors

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## Corollary

- *Every non-empty bipartite regular graph has a 1-factor.*

## Proof.

- $(A \sqcup B, E)$  regular  $\Rightarrow |A| = |B|$ .
- For any  $S \subseteq A$ ,

$$k|S| = |E(S)| \leq |E(N(S))| = k|N(S)|,$$

so  $S$  satisfies Hall's criterion. □

# 2-factors

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## Corollary

- *Every regular graph of positive even degree has a 2-factor.*

## Proof.

- Assume WLOG  $G$  connected.
- Positive even degree  $\Rightarrow$  exists an *Euler tour*  
 $v_0, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m = v_0$  with

$$E = \{v_i v_{i+1} : 0 \leq i < m\}.$$

- Construct a bipartite graph  $G' = (V^+ \sqcup V^-, E)$ , where

$$V^+ = \{v^+ : v \in V(G)\}, V^- = \{v^- : v \in V(G)\}$$

and

$$E = \{\{v_i^+, v_{i+1}^-\} : 0 \leq i < m\}.$$





# 2-factors

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## Corollary

- *Every regular graph of positive even degree has a 2-factor.*

## Continued.

- Construct a bipartite graph  $G' = (V^+ \sqcup V^-, E)$ , where

$$V^+ = \{v^+ : v \in V(G)\}, V^- = \{v^- : v \in V(G)\}$$

and

$$E = \{\{v_i^+, v_{i+1}^-\} : 0 \leq i < m\}.$$

- This graph is bipartite and regular, so has a perfect matching.
- This perfect matching projects to a 2-factor in  $G$  under the map  $G' \rightarrow G$ ,  $v^+ \mapsto v$ ,  $v^- \mapsto v$ .



# Preference orders

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- A *preference order* of a vertex  $v \in V(G)$  is a linear order  $\leq_v$  on  $N(v)$ .
- We say that  $v$  *prefers*  $u$  to  $w$  if  $u \geq_v w$ .
- A *preference ordered graph* is a graph  $G$  together with a preference order for every vertex  $v \in V(G)$ .

# Preference orders

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- Let  $M$  be a matching on a preference ordered graph.
- We say that  $a$  *desires*  $b \in N(a)$  if  $b \succeq_a x$  for any  $x$  with  $\{a, x\} \in M$ .
- An edge  $\{a, b\} \notin M$  is *critical* with respect to the matching  $M$  if  $a$  desires  $b$  and  $b$  desires  $a$ .
- A matching is *stable* if there is no critical pair with respect to  $M$ .
- We say that  $a$  is *satisfied* if  $a$  is unmatched **or**  $a$  is not contained in any critical edge.

# Preference orders

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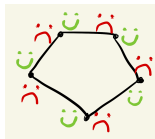
9: Extremality

10: Ramsey

- For some preference ordered graphs, there exist no stable matchings.
- Example: Consider the cyclic graph  $C_n$  with the preferences

$$i + 1 \succeq_i i - 1$$

for all  $i \in V(C_n) = \{0, 1, \dots, n - 1\}$ , (addition mod  $n$ ).



- If  $i$  is unmatched, then  $\{i, i - 1\}$  is always a critical edge.
- If  $n$  is odd, then some vertex is always unmatched, so no stable matching exists.

# Gale's Marriage Theorem

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## Theorem

- *For any set of preferences  $\{\leq_x: x \in V(G)\}$  on a bipartite graph  $G$ , there exists a stable matching.*

## Proof.

- We will find such a matching by an algorithm that will terminate on a stable matching.
- The algorithm is (controversially?) not symmetric on the sets  $A$  and  $B$ .

# Gale's Marriage Theorem

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Continued.

- WHILE there exist desired unmatched  $a \in A$ :
  - Choose arbitrary desired unmatched  $a \in A$ .
  - Every element in  $B$  that desires  $a$  *proposes* to her.
  - $a$  selects her favourite among the admirers (who leaves his previous partner if he was already matched).
- By construction, matched elements in  $A$  are never in a critical pair.
- The algorithm ends after at most  $\sum_{b \in B} d(b)$  iterations.
- When the algorithm terminates, unmatched elements in  $A$  are also not in any critical pair. □

# Gale's Marriage Theorem

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## Theorem

- *On a given graph  $G$  with given preference orders, all stable matchings have the same size.*

## Proof.

- Exercise □

# Tutte's condition

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- If  $|G|$  is odd, then  $G$  has no 1-factor. (duh!)
- Let  $q(H)$  denote the number of odd components in the graph  $H$ .
- Assume  $S$  is a separator on  $G$ ,  $A$  is a component of  $G \setminus S$ , and  $M$  is a 1-factor on  $G$ .
- Either  $M$  is a 1-factor on  $A$ , or  $M$  contains an  $AS$ -edge.
- So if  $G$  has a 1-factor, then  $q(G \setminus S) \leq |S|$ .



# Tutte's condition

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10: Ramsey

- Let  $q(H)$  denote the number of odd components in the graph  $H$ .

## Theorem

- *The graph  $G$  has a 1-factor if and only if  $q(G \setminus S) \leq |S|$  for all  $S \subseteq V(G)$ .*

## Proof.

- $\Rightarrow$ : Trivial.
- $\Leftarrow$ : Say that a set  $S$  is *bad* if  $q(G \setminus S) > |S|$ .
- If  $G' \subseteq G$  is a spanning subgraph, and  $S$  is bad in  $G$ , then  $S$  is bad in  $G'$ .
- Assume  $G$  *edge-maximal* with no 1-factor. We want to find a bad set  $S$ .

# Tutte's condition

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## Theorem

- *The graph  $G$  has a 1-factor if and only if  $q(G \setminus S) \leq |S|$  for all  $S \subseteq V(G)$ .*

## Continued.

- Assume  $G$  *edge-maximal* with no 1-factor.
- Consider

$$S = \{v \in V : \forall u \in V : vu \in E\}.$$

- Every component in  $G \setminus S$  is complete by edge-maximality (technical lemma).
- If  $|G|$  is even, then we would get a 1-factor unless if  $S$  is bad.
- If  $|G|$  is odd, then  $\emptyset$  is bad. □

# 3-regular graphs

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## Theorem

- *Every 3-regular bridgeless graph  $G$  has a 1-factor.*

## Proof.

- We will show that  $G$  satisfies Tutte's criterion.
- Fix  $S \subseteq V(G)$ , and an odd component  $C$  of  $G \setminus S$ .
- $\sum_{c \in C} d(c)$  is odd, so there is an odd number of  $SC$ -edges.
- No bridge  $\Rightarrow$  there are at least 3  $SC$ -edges.
- So

$$3|S| \geq \sum \#SC\text{-edges} \geq 3q(G \setminus S),$$

where the sum is over all odd components of  $G \setminus S$ . □

# Connectivity

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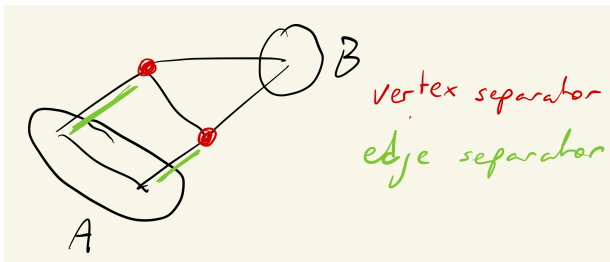
7: Perfection

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10: Ramsey

- $X \subseteq V(G) \cup E(G)$  is a *separator* of  $G$  if  $G \setminus X$  is disconnected
- $X \subseteq V(G) \cup E(G)$  is an  $A - B$ -separator, for  $A, B \subseteq V(G)$ , if there is no path from  $A$  to  $B$  in  $G \setminus X$ .
  - If  $X$  consists only of vertices, it is a *vertex separator*
  - If  $X$  consists only of edges, it is a *edge separator*



# Connectivity

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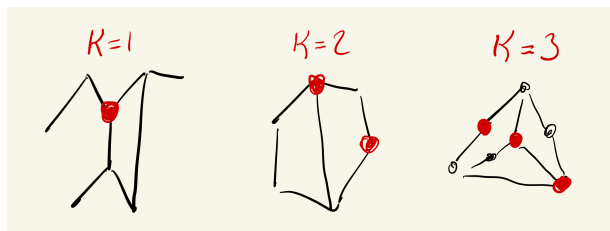
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10: Ramsey

- The graph  $G$  is  $k$ -connected if  $G \setminus X$  is connected for all  $X \subseteq V(G)$  with  $|X| < k$ .
- The *connectivity*  $\kappa(G)$  is the largest integer  $k$  such that  $G$  is  $k$ -connected.



# Connectivity

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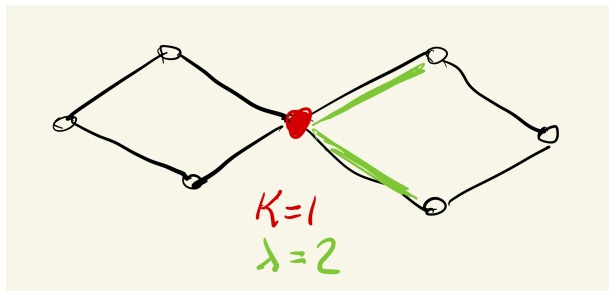
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- The graph  $G$  is edge- $k$ -connected if  $G \setminus X$  is  $k$ -connected for all  $X \subseteq E(G)$  with  $|X| < k$ .
- The *edge connectivity*  $\lambda(G)$  is the largest integer  $k$  such that  $G$  is  $k$ -edge-connected.



# Connectivity

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## Theorem

- For any non-complete graph  $G$ ,

$$\kappa(G) \leq \lambda(G) \leq \delta(G).$$

## Proof.

$$\lambda(G) \leq \delta(G) :$$

- The  $d(v) = \delta(G)$  edges surrounding some vertex  $v$  separate  $v$  from the rest of the graph.

# Connectivity

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Proof.

$$\kappa(G) \leq \lambda(G) :$$

- Consider a  $k$  element edge separator  $F$ .
- **Case one:**  $F$  covers all vertices of  $G$ .
- Consider  $v$  with  $d(v) < n - 1$ , and let  $A$  be the connected component of  $v$  in  $G \setminus F$ .
- All edges  $v$ - $y$ ,  $y \notin A$ , are in  $F$ .
- All elements of  $N(v) \cap A$  are in *different* edges of  $F$ .
- So  $|N(v)| \leq k$ , and so  $N(v)$  is a separator of size  $< k$ .



## Proof.

$$\kappa(G) \leq \lambda(G) :$$

- Consider a  $k$  element edge separator  $F$ .
- **Case two:**  $v \in V$  in not incident to any edge in  $F$ .
- Let  $A$  be the connected component of  $v$  in  $G \setminus F$ .
- Let  $A' \subseteq A$  be the set of vertices in  $A$  that are incident to an edge in  $F$ .
- So  $A' \leq k$ ,  $A'$  separates  $v$  from  $V \setminus A$  in  $G \setminus F$ . □

# Connectivity

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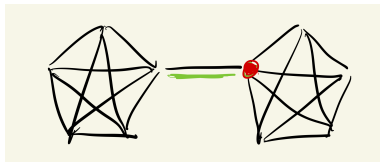
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- So high connectivity implies high minimum degree.
- The opposite implication does not hold.



# 2-connected graphs

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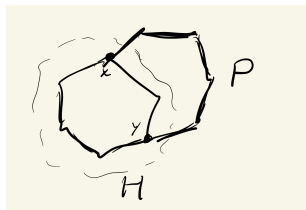
9: Extremality

10: Ramsey

## Theorem

$G$  is 2-connected if and only if it can be inductively constructed by:

- Starting from a cycle.
  - Adding a  $H$ -path to  $H$ .
- A  $H$ -path is a  $x$ - $y$ -path  $P$  for some vertices  $x, y \in H$ , such that no internal vertex on  $P$  lies in  $H$ .



# 2-connected graphs

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## Theorem

*$G$  is 2-connected if and only if it can be inductively constructed by:*

- *Starting from a cycle.*
- *Adding a  $H$ -path to  $H$ .*

## Proof.

- $\Rightarrow$ : Cycles are 2-connected, and 2-connectedness is preserved when adding  $H$ -paths
- $\Leftarrow$ : By induction on  $|G|$ .

# 2-connected graphs

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## Theorem

*$G$  is 2-connected if and only if it can be inductively constructed by:*

- *Starting from a cycle.*
- *Adding a  $H$ -path to  $H$ .*

## Proof.

- For a contradiction, consider a *maximal* subgraph  $H \subsetneq G$  constructed as in the theorem.
- By maximality,  $H$  is induced.
- $G$  connected, so there is an edge  $uv \in E(G)$  with  $u \in H$ ,  $v \notin H$ .
- $G$  2-connected, so there is a  $H-v$ -path  $P$  in  $G \setminus \{u\}$ .
- $P + \{u, v\}$  is a  $H$ -path, contradicting the maximality of  $H$ .  $\square$

# Paths and separators

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- $X \subseteq V(G) \cup E(G)$  is an  $A - B$ -separator, for  $A, B \subseteq V(G)$ , if there is no path from  $A$  to  $B$  in  $G \setminus X$ .
- A family of paths from  $A$  to  $B$  are
  - *Disjoint* if they have no vertices in common.
  - *Independent* if they have no *internal* vertices in common.
  - *Edge disjoint* if they have no edges in common.
- Clearly,

Edge disjoint  $\Leftarrow$  Independent  $\Leftarrow$  Disjoint

# Menger's local theorem

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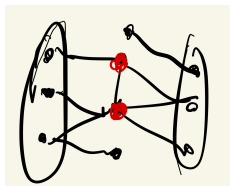
8: Randomness

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## Theorem

- Let  $G$  be a graph and  $A, B \subseteq V(G)$ .
- The minimum size of an  $(A, B)$ -vertex separator equals the maximum number of pairwise disjoint  $A - B$ -paths in  $G$ .



- We allow the vertex separator to intersect  $A \cup B$ .
- Indeed, if  $A \cap B \neq \emptyset$ , then the vertex separator must contain  $A \cap B$ .

# Menger's local theorem

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## Theorem

- *Let  $G$  be a graph and  $A, B \subseteq V(G)$ .*
- *The minimum size of an  $(A, B)$ -vertex separator equals the maximum number of pairwise disjoint  $A - B$ -paths in  $G$ .*

## Proof.

- $\geq$ : If there are  $k$  disjoint paths, then all of them must contain a vertex from the separator.
- So any separator has size at least  $k$ .



# Menger's local theorem

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## Theorem

- Let  $G$  be a graph and  $A, B \subseteq V(G)$ .
- The minimum size of an  $(A, B)$ -vertex separator equals the maximum number of pairwise disjoint  $A - B$ -paths in  $G$ .

## Proof.

- $\leq$ : Assume there is no  $(A, B)$ -vertex separator of size  $k - 1$ .
- We claim that there are  $k$  pairwise disjoint  $A - B$ -paths in  $G$ .
- Proof by induction over  $|E(G)|$ .
- Base case: If  $E = \emptyset$ , then  $A \cap B$  is a separator, so  $|A \cap B| \geq k$ .
- Then there are  $k$  trivial  $A - B$ -paths.

# Menger's local theorem

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## Proof.

- $\leq$ : Assume there is no  $(A, B)$ -vertex separator of size  $k - 1$ .
- Assume for a contradiction that there are *not*  $k$  pairwise disjoint  $A - B$ -paths in  $G$ .
- Fix  $e \in E(G)$ . There are at most  $k - 1$  pairwise disjoint  $A - B$ -paths in  $G \setminus e$ .
- By induction hypothesis,  $G \setminus e$  has an  $(A, B)$ -separator  $S$  with  $|S| \leq k - 1$ .



# Menger's local theorem

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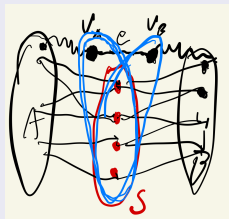
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## Proof.

- $\leq$ : We assumed there were no  $(A, B)$ -vertex separator of size  $k - 1$  but also no  $k$  pairwise disjoint  $A - B$ -paths in  $G$ .
- By induction hypothesis,  $G \setminus e$  has an  $(A, B)$ -separator  $S$  with  $|S| \leq k - 1$ .
- There is an  $A - B$ -path in  $G$  that uses  $e$  and does not intersect  $S$ , because  $S$  is not a separator in  $G$ .



# Menger's local theorem

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## Proof.

- $G \setminus e$  has neither a  $(A, S \cup \{v_A\})$ -separator nor any  $(A, S \cup \{v_B\})$ -separator of size  $\leq k - 1$ .
- By induction, there are  $k$  disjoint  $(A, S \cup \{v_A\})$ -paths and  $k$  disjoint  $(B, S \cup \{v_A\})$ -paths.
- These can be glued together with the edge  $e$  to form  $k$  disjoint  $(A, B)$ -paths. □



# Menger's global theorem

MS-E1050

Ragnar  
Freij-Hollanti

0: Introductions

1–2: Basics

3: Matchings

4: **Connectivity**

5: Planarity

6: Colourings

7: Perfection

8: Randomness

9: Extremality

10: Ramsey

## Theorem

- Let  $G$  be a graph. The following are equivalent:
  - $G$  is  $k$ -connected.
  - For every  $a, b \in V(G)$ , there are  $k$  pairwise independent  $a - b$ -paths.

## Proof.

- The following are equivalent.
  - There are  $k$  pairwise independent  $a - b$ -paths.
  - There are  $k$  pairwise disjoint  $N(a) - N(b)$ -paths.
  - There is no  $(N(a), N(b))$ -separator of size  $< k$ .
- Every separator in the graph is an  $(N(a), N(b))$ -separator for some  $a, b \in V(G)$ .
- Thus, the conditions above hold for *all* vertices  $a, b \in V(G)$  if and only if  $G$  is  $k$ -connected. □

# Menger's edge-connectivity theorem

MS-E1050

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## Corollary

- Let  $G$  be a graph. The following are equivalent:
  - $G$  is  $k$ -edge connected.
  - For every  $a, b \in V(G)$ , there are  $k$  pairwise edge-disjoint  $a - b$ -paths.

## Proof.

- Apply Menger's theorem to the *line graph*  $L(G)$  of  $G$ .
- Edge disjoint  $(a, b)$ -paths in  $G$  are disjoint  $(E(a), E(b))$ -paths in  $L(G)$ . □

# Minors

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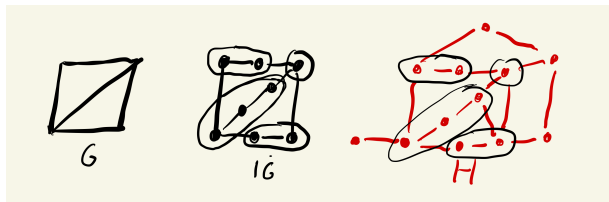
9: Extremality

10: Ramsey

- If  $G$  is a graph, then  $IG$  (“inflated  $G$ ”) denotes any graph  $G'$  whose vertex set can be partitioned as a disjoint union  $V(G') = \cup_{x \in V(G)} U_x$  where

$$xy \in E(G) \Leftrightarrow \exists v_x \in U_x, v_y \in U_y : v_x v_y \in E(G').$$

- If  $H$  has a subgraph isomorphic to an  $IG$ , then  $G$  is a *minor* of  $H$ .



# Minors

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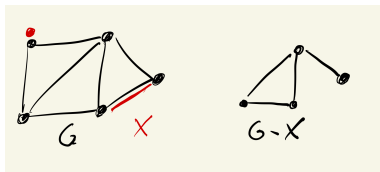
10: Ramsey

- The *deletion* of  $X \subseteq E$  from  $G = (V, E)$  is

$$G \setminus X = (V, E \setminus X).$$

- The *deletion* of  $X \subseteq V \cup E$  from  $G = (V, E)$  is

$$G \setminus X = (G \setminus (E \cap X)) \setminus [V \setminus X].$$





# Minors

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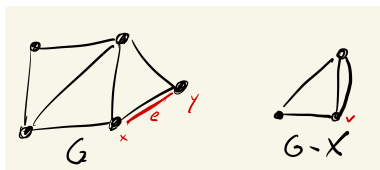
- The *contraction* of the edge  $e = \{x, y\}$  from  $G = (V, E)$  is  $G/e = (V', E')$ , where

$$V' = V \setminus \{x, y\} \cup \{v\}$$

and

$$E' = E \setminus \{xz\} \setminus \{yz\} \cup \{vz : xz \in E \text{ or } yz \in E\}.$$

- Observe that it is often (but not always) more natural to define the contraction as a multigraph.
- If  $z \in N(x) \cap N(y)$ , then we get two parallel edges  $vz$ .



# Minors

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- Contraction and deletion commute:

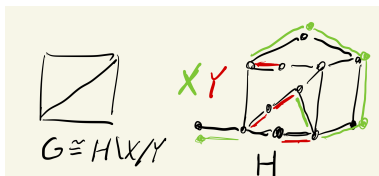
$$(G/e)/f \cong (G/f)/e,$$

and if  $e \notin X$  then

$$(G \setminus X)/e \cong (G/e) \setminus X.$$

- So for  $X \subseteq V \cup E$  and  $Y \subseteq E \setminus X$ , we can naturally define

$$G \setminus X/Y.$$



# Minors

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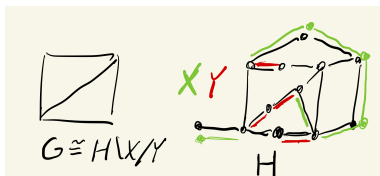
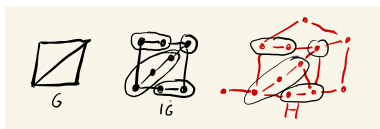
9: Extremality

10: Ramsey

## Proposition

- $G$  is a minor of  $H = (V, E)$  if and only if there exists  $X \subseteq V \cup E$  and  $Y \subseteq E \setminus X$ , such that

$$G \cong H \setminus X / Y.$$



# Building $k$ -connected graphs

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- Paraphrasing previous theorems:
  - Connected graphs can be obtained by glueing edges together along vertices.
  - 2-connected graphs can be constructed by glueing cycles together along paths.
- The family of connected 3-regular graphs is much more complicated than the families of connected 1- and 2-regular graphs
- The building blocks of the structure theorem for 3-connected graphs are  $K_4$ , and the operations are the inverse of contraction.

# Two operations on multigraphs

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## Definition

The  $(v, N_x, N_y)$ -vertex split of  $G'$  is  $G' \mapsto G = (V, E)$ , where

$$V = V(G') \cup \{x, y\} \setminus \{v\}$$

and

$$E = E(G') \setminus \{e : v \in e\} \cup \{xz : z \in N_x\} \cup \{yz : z \in N_y\} \cup \{xy\},$$

where

$$v \in V(G'), \quad N_x, N_y \subseteq N(v), \quad N_x \cup N_y = N(v).$$

## Proposition

$G' \cong G/e$  for some  $e = xy \in E(G)$  if and only if  $G$  is a vertex split of  $G'$ .

# Tutte's wheel theorem

MS-E1050

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Freij-Hollanti

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10: Ramsey

- Our next goal is to prove the following theorem:

## Theorem

*A graph  $G$  is 3-connected if and only if there is a sequence of edges*

$$e_1, \dots, e_{m-6}$$

*in  $G$  such that:*

- *$G/\{e_1, \dots, e_k\}$  is 3-connected for all  $k$ .*
- *$G/\{e_1, \dots, e_{m-6}\} \cong K_4$ .*

# Two operations on multigraphs

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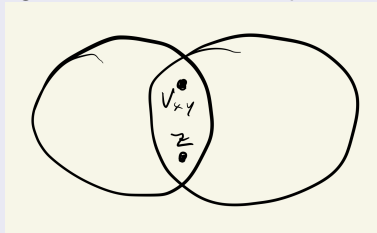
10: Ramsey

## Lemma

*If  $G$  is 3-connected, then there is some edge  $e \in E(G)$  such that  $G/e$  is also 3-connected.*

## Proof.

- Assume not.
- Then every edge is contained in a 3-separator.



# Two operations on multigraphs

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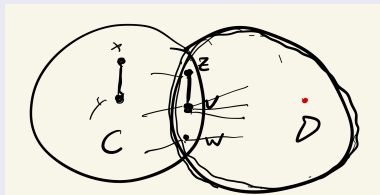
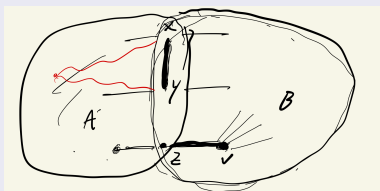
10: Ramsey

## Lemma

*If  $G$  is 3-connected, then there is some edge  $e \in E(G)$  such that  $G/e$  is also 3-connected.*

## Proof.

- Assume  $B$  minimal.



$$D \subsetneq B \quad \square$$



# Two operations on multigraphs

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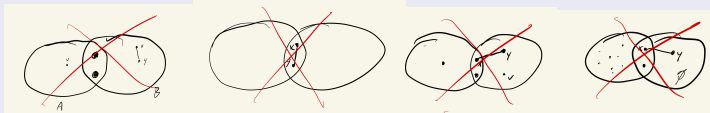
10: Ramsey

## Lemma

If  $G$  is 3-connected,  $v \in V(G)$ , and  $N_x, N_y \subseteq N(v)$  satisfy  $|N_x| \geq 3, |N_y| \geq 3$ , then the  $(v, N_x, N_y)$ -vertex split of  $G$  is 3-connected.

## Proof.

- Assume there were a 2-separator in the vertex split  $G'$ .
- Proof by contradiction by case separation



# Tutte's wheel theorem

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## Theorem

*A graph  $G$  is 3-connected if and only if there is a sequence of edges*

$$e_1, \dots, e_{m-6}$$

*in  $G$  such that:*

- $G/\{e_1, \dots, e_k\}$  is 3-connected for all  $k$ .
- $G/\{e_1, \dots, e_{m-6}\} \cong K_4$ .

# Plane graphs

MS-E1050

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Freij-Hollanti

0: Introductions

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## Definition

- A plane graph is a pair  $(V, E)$  (notice the abuse of notation) where
  - $V$  is a set of points in  $\mathbb{R}^2$
  - Every edge is a curve between two points in  $V$ .
  - The interior of an edge does not intersect any other edge or contain any vertex  $v \in V$ .
- Plane graphs have a natural multigraph structure.

# Plane graphs

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- The *graph drawing*

$$V \cup \bigcup_{e \in E} e \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$$

separates the plane into *faces*.

- Each face is topologically an open disc or a punctured open disc.
- If  $G$  is finite, then there is only one unbounded face, the *outer face*.
- If we want to remove the distinction between inner and outer faces, we draw our plane graphs on the sphere  $S^2$  instead of in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .
- If  $G$  is connected, then each face (except for the outer face) is an open disc, and is bounded by a closed walk in the graph  $G$ .

# Planar graphs

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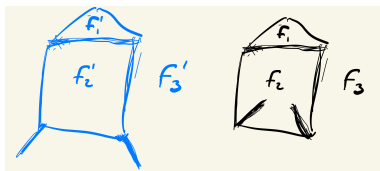
7: Perfection

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- A *planar graph* is a graph that is isomorphic to the graph of some plane graph.
- In principle, two different plane graphs can yield the same planar graph.



# Plane triangulations

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0: Introductions

1–2: Basics

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## Proposition

*$G$  is a maximally planar graph if and only if every drawing of it is a triangulation of  $S^2$ .*

- A planar graph  $G = (V, E)$  is maximally planar if  $(V, E \cup \{e\})$  is nonplanar for any  $e \notin E$ .
- The implication  $\Rightarrow$  is obvious, because if  $G$  can be drawn with a non-triangle face, then a chord can be added to this face without destroying planarity.
- The implication  $\Leftarrow$  will follow shortly.

# Euler's theorem

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## Proposition

- *A plane graph has only one face if and only if  $G$  is a forest.*

## Proof.

- By induction on  $|E|$ . □

# Euler's theorem

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## Proposition

- *If a plane graph has  $v$  vertices,  $e$  edges and  $f$  faces, then*

$$v - e + f = 2.$$

## Proof.

- By induction on  $|E|$ . □



# Double counting

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10: Ramsey

- $$2e = \sum_{\text{faces } F} |\partial F| \geq \begin{cases} 3f & \text{if } G \text{ simple} \\ 4f & \text{if } G \text{ simple bipartite} \end{cases}$$
- If  $G$  simple planar, then  $e \leq 3v - 6$ .
  - In particular,  $K_5$  is not planar ( $e = 10, v = 5$ ).
- If  $G$  simple bipartite and planar, then  $e \leq 2v - 4$ .
  - In particular,  $K_{3,3}$  is not planar ( $e = 9, v = 6$ ).

# Faces

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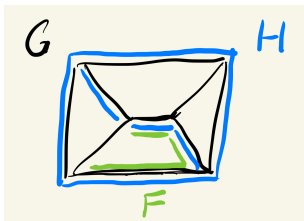
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- If  $H \subseteq G$ , and the edges  $F \subseteq E(G)$  are contained in a face of (some drawing of)  $G$ , then they are also contained in a face of (the induced drawing of)  $H$ .



# 2-connected planar graphs

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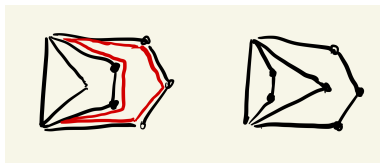
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- The faces of 2-connected plane graphs are bounded by cycles.
- By Euler's theorem, the *number* of face-bounding cycles in  $G$  does not depend on the drawing.
- However, the *set* of face-bounding cycles does.



# Uniqueness of drawings

MS-E1050

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Freij-Hollanti

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10: Ramsey

- The moral of the following theorem is that “3-connected planar graphs can essentially only be drawn in one way”.

## Theorem

- *Consider a fixed drawing of a 3-connected planar graph  $G$ .*
- *A cycle  $C \subseteq E(G)$  bounds a face if and only if it is induced and separating.*

# Uniqueness of drawings

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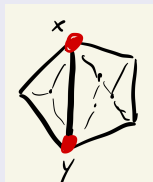
10: Ramsey

## Theorem

- A cycle  $C \subseteq E(G)$  bounds a face iff it is induced and non-separating.

## Proof.

- Face-bounding  $\Rightarrow$  Induced:
- WLOG, assume  $C$  bounds the outer face and  $x, y \in V(C)$ .
- If  $xy \in E(G)$ , then  $\{x, y\}$  is a 2-separator, contradicting 3-connectivity. □



# Uniqueness of drawings

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## Theorem

- A cycle  $C \subseteq E(G)$  bounds a face iff it is induced and non-separating.

## Proof.

- Face-bounding  $\Rightarrow$  Non-separating:
- Assume  $C$  bounds a face, and let  $x, y \in V(G) \setminus V(C)$ .
- By 3-connectivity and Menger's theorem, there are 3 independent  $xy$ -paths.
- One of these paths must go outside of  $C$  (by topology).
- So  $C$  does not separate  $x$  from  $y$ . □



# Uniqueness of drawings

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## Theorem

- A cycle  $C \subseteq E(G)$  bounds a face iff it is induced and non-separating.

## Proof.

- Induced and non-separating  $\Rightarrow$  Face-bounding:
- $C$  non-separating, so all vertices in  $V(G) \setminus V(C)$  are in one of the two regions bounded by  $C$ .
- WLOG all vertices on the “outside” of  $C$ .
- $C$  induced and no vertices inside of  $C \Rightarrow$  no edges inside of  $C$ .
- Thus  $C$  bounds a face. □



# Plane duals

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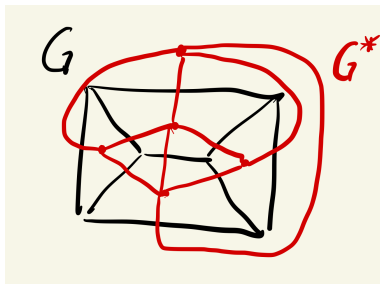
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- Any plane graph  $G = (V, E)$  has a plane dual  $G^* = (F, E')$
- $F$  is the set of faces of  $G$ , and there is a natural bijection  $E \leftrightarrow E'$ .
- Well defined up to topological equivalence.
- $(G^*)^* = G$ .





# Plane duals

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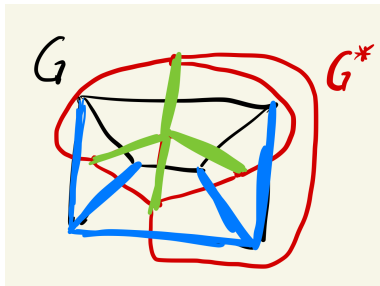
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- The complement of a spanning tree in  $G$  corresponds to a spanning tree in  $G^*$ .
- $T \subseteq E(G)$  acyclic  $\Leftrightarrow \bar{T}' \subseteq E(G^*)$  connected.



# Plane duals

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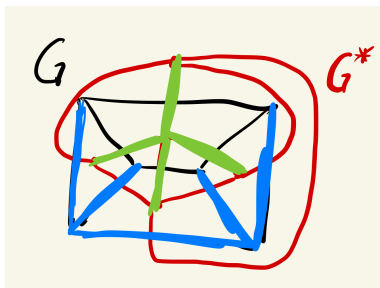
9: Extremality

10: Ramsey

- The complement of a spanning tree in  $G$  corresponds to a spanning tree in  $G^*$ .
- This proves in a new way that

$$e = |E(G)| = (|V(G)| - 1) + (|V(G^*)| - 1) = (v - 1) + (f - 1),$$

so  $v - e + f = 2$ .



# Outerplanar graphs

MS-E1050

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4: Connectivity

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6: Colourings

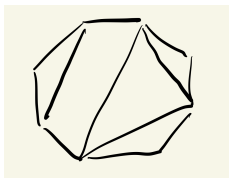
7: Perfection

8: Randomness

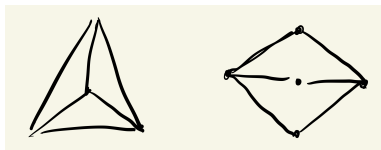
9: Extremality

10: Ramsey

- A planar graph  $G$  is *outerplanar* if it has a drawing in which every vertex is on the outer face.



- Example:  $K_4$  and  $K_{3,2}$  are planar but not outerplanar.



# Minors

MS-E1050

Ragnar  
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0: Introductions

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- Assume  $G$  is (outer)planar and  $e \in E(G)$ .
- Then both  $G/e$  and  $G \setminus e$  are (outer)planar.
- So the classes of (outer)planar graphs are closed under taking minors.
- In particular, no planar graph can have  $K_5$  or  $K_{3,3}$  as a minor.

# Kuratowski's theorem

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## Theorem

- *A graph  $G$  is planar if and only if it does not contain  $K_5$  or  $K_{3,3}$  as a minor.*

- $\Rightarrow$  follows because minors of planar graphs are planar.
- $\Leftarrow$  Proof by contradiction, first reducing to the 3-connected case.

## Lemma

- *An edge-minimal non-planar graph  $G$  that does not contain  $K_5$  or  $K_{3,3}$  as a minor is 3-connected.*

# Kuratowski's theorem

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## Lemma (Reduction to 3-connected case)

- *An edge-minimal non-planar graph  $G$  that does not contain  $K_5$  or  $K_{3,3}$  as a minor is 3-connected.*

## Proof.

- Blackboard □

# Kuratowski's theorem

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## Lemma (Key Lemma)

- A 3-connected *graph*  $G$  that does not contain  $K_5$  or  $K_{3,3}$  as a minor is planar.

## Proof.

- Blackboard □
  
- Kuratowski's Theorem follows from the reduction lemma and the key lemma.

# Definitions

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- A (proper)  $k$ -colouring of  $G = (V, E)$  is a map  $\gamma : V \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$  such that  $\gamma(v) \neq \gamma(u)$  whenever  $uv \in E$ .



- In other words, a  $k$ -colouring is a graph homomorphism  $G \rightarrow K_k$ .
- The *chromatic number* of  $G = (V, E)$  is the smallest  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that there exists a  $k$ -colouring of  $G$ .
- In other words,  $\chi(G) = k$  is the smallest number of independent sets into which  $V(G)$  can be partitioned.



# Definitions

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- The *chromatic number* of  $G = (V, E)$  is the smallest  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that there exists a  $k$ -colouring of  $G$ .
- In other words,  $\chi(G) = k$  is the smallest number of independent sets into which  $V(G)$  can be partitioned.

# Examples

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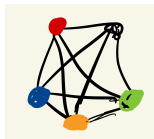
7: Perfection

8: Randomness

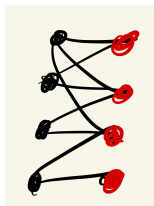
9: Extremality

10: Ramsey

- $\chi(K_n) = n.$



- $\chi(G) = 2$  if and only if  $G$  is bipartite.



# Examples

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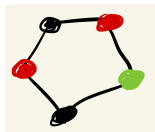
9: Extremality

10: Ramsey



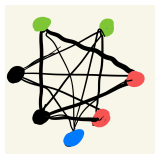
$$\omega(C_n) = 2$$

$$\chi(C_n) = \begin{cases} 2 & n \text{ even} \\ 3 & n \text{ odd} \end{cases} .$$



$$\omega(\bar{C}_n) = \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$$

$$\chi(\bar{C}_n) = \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil .$$



# Lower bounds

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- $\omega(G) \leq \chi(G)$ 
  - Proof: Pairwise connected vertices need different colours.
  - Strict inequality for odd cycles and odd cocycles of length  $\geq 5$ .
- $\chi(H) \leq \chi(G)$  if  $H \subseteq G$  is a subgraph.
  - Proof: Any colouring of  $G$  restricts to a colouring of  $H$ .
- $\frac{|V(G)|}{\alpha(G)} \leq \chi(G)$ .
  - Proof:  $V(G)$  is the union of  $\chi(G)$  colour classes of size  $\leq \alpha(G)$ .

# Greedy colouring

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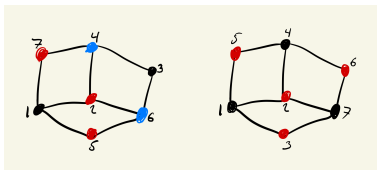
9: Extremality

10: Ramsey

- Order  $V(G) = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$  arbitrarily.
- For  $i = 1, \dots, n$ : Let

$$\gamma(v_i) = \min\{c \in \mathbb{N} : \gamma(v_j) \neq c \text{ for all } 1 \leq j < i, v_j \in N(v_i)\}.$$

- Then  $\gamma$  is a proper colouring of  $G$ .



- For every vertex, there are at most  $\Delta(G)$  forbidden colours.

# Brooks' Theorem

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- Any colouring gives an upper bound on  $\chi(G)$ .
- Greedy colouring shows  $\chi(G) \leq \Delta(G) + 1$ .

## Theorem (Brooks, 1941)

*If  $\chi(G) = \Delta(G) + 1$  if and only if  $G$  is complete or an odd cycle.*

- Proof: Clever vertex ordering + greedy colouring.

# Greedy colouring

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- Order  $V(G)$  such that  $d(v_n) = \delta(G)$ , and recursively such that  $v_i$  has minimum degree in  $G \setminus \{v_{i+1}, \dots, v_n\}$ .
- Then the greedy colouring gives

$$\gamma(v_i) \leq \delta(G[v_1, \dots, v_i]) + 1.$$

- So

$$\chi(G) \leq \max_{H \subseteq G} \delta(H) + 1.$$

# Upper bounds

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10: Ramsey

- If  $\chi(G) = k$ , then for any  $k$ -colouring there must be at least one edge between every pair of colour classes.
- Thus

$$\binom{k}{2} \leq |E(G)| = m,$$

so

$$\chi(G) \leq \frac{1 + \sqrt{8m + 1}}{2}.$$



# Greedy colouring

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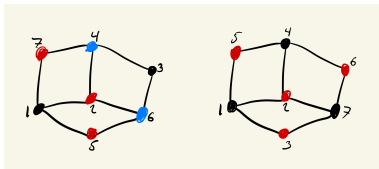
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- The greedy algorithm can be arbitrarily bad, depending on the vertex ordering.



- However, there exists a vertex ordering on which the greedy algorithm uses only  $\chi(G)$  colours.
- So if we can perform the greedy algorithm for all possible orderings of  $V$ , we can compute the chromatic number *exactly*.
- But there are  $n!$  possible ways to order  $V$ , so this is not an efficient algorithm.

# Greedy algorithm

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## Theorem

- *There exists a vertex ordering of  $V(G)$  on which the greedy algorithm uses only  $\chi(G)$  colours.*

## Proof.

- Let  $\gamma : V \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$  be some  $k$ -colouring of  $G$ .
- Let  $V_i$  be the independent set  $V_i = \{v \in V(G) : \gamma(v) = i\} \subseteq V$ .
- Order the vertices such that all nodes in  $V_1$  come first, then all nodes in  $V_2$ , and so on.
- Let  $\delta : V \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$  be a greedy graph colouring with respect to this ordering.
- By induction:  $\delta(v) \leq i$  for all  $v \in V_i$ , so  $\delta$  uses  $\leq k$  colours.  $\square$

# The Four Colour Theorem

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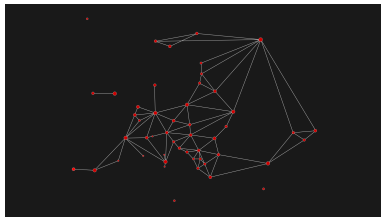
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- Colouring a plane graph  $\iff$  Colouring a political map (with connected countries), such that neighbouring countries can be distinguished by their colours.



# The Four Colour Theorem

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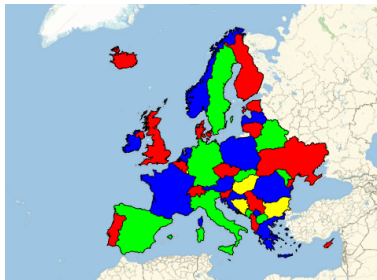
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- $K_4$  is planar (Luxembourg, Germany, France, Belgium), so at least four colours are needed to colour all planar maps.



- $K_5$  is not planar, but maybe we could need five colours anyway?

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## Theorem (Apple, Haken, 1976)

- *Any planar graph  $G$  satisfies  $\chi(G) \leq 4$*
- Proof by decomposition via extensive computer search.
- Enough to prove for 5-regular graphs.
- Computer aided colouring of  $> 1000$  “reducible configurations” of  $> 100$  vertices each.

# The Four Colour Theorem

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- Any planar graph  $G$  satisfies  $\chi(G) \leq 4$
- Any graph that can be drawn without edge crossings on...
  - the torus satisfies  $\chi(G) \leq 7$ .
  - a Klein bottle satisfies  $\chi(G) \leq 6$ .
  - an orientable surface of genus  $g$  satisfies

$$\chi(G) \leq \left\lfloor \frac{7 + \sqrt{1 + 48g}}{2} \right\rfloor.$$

- a non-orientable surface of genus  $k$  satisfies

$$\chi(G) \leq \left\lfloor \frac{7 + \sqrt{1 + 24k}}{2} \right\rfloor.$$

# The Five Colour Theorem

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- The following proof of the weaker *five colour theorem* “almost” proves the *four colour theorem*.
- Remarkably (?) it uses *geometric properties of plane graphs*, rather than *Kuratowski’s theorem*.

## Theorem (Heawood, 1890)

- Any planar graph  $G$  satisfies  $\chi(G) \leq 5$ .

# The Five Colour Theorem

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## Theorem (Heawood, 1890)

- *Any planar graph  $G$  satisfies  $\chi(G) \leq 5$ .*

## Proof.

- Average degree  $< 6$ , so choose a vertex  $v$  with degree  $\leq 5$ .
- Enough to show that  $G \setminus v$  can be 5-coloured such that only 4 colours are used on  $N(v)$ .
- Assume not, and fix a plane drawing of  $G$  and a 5-colouring of  $G \setminus v$ .



# The Five Colour Theorem

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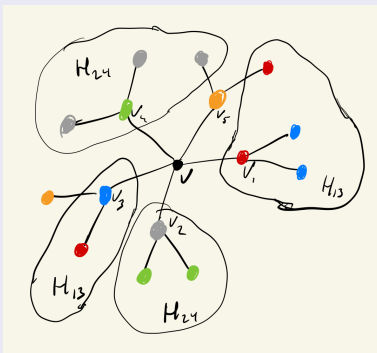
8: Randomness

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## Proof.

- WLOG, the neighbours of  $v$  are coloured  $1, \dots, 5$  in colockwise order.
- Let  $H_{i,j}$  be the induced subgraph on the colour classes  $i, j$ .



# The Five Colour Theorem

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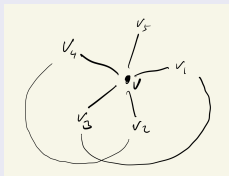
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## Proof.

- Every  $v_1 - v_3$ -path in  $G \setminus v$  intersects with every  $v_2 - v_4$ -path in  $G \setminus v$ .



- But  $H_{13} \cap H_{24} = \emptyset$ .
- So either  $v_1$  and  $v_3$  are in different components of  $H_{13}$ , or  $v_2$  and  $v_4$  are in different components of  $H_{24}$ .

# The Five Colour Theorem

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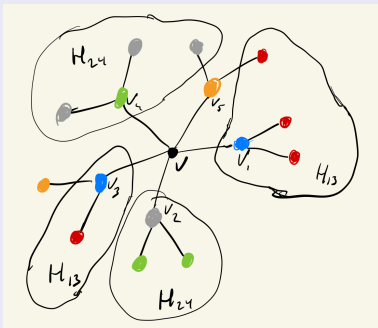
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## Proof.

- Assume WLOG that  $v_1$  and  $v_3$  are in different components of  $H_{13}$ .
- We can swap the colours on the component of  $H_{13}$  containing  $v_1$ .
- After this, colour 1 is no longer used on  $N(v)$ . □



# Motivation

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- Some (many) graphs can not be  $k$ -coloured, although they have no  $k$ -cliques
- Erdős theorem (next week) says that  $\chi$  is a “global” invariant.
- A graph can look like a tree within an arbitrarily large radius, but still have arbitrarily large chromatic number.
- We want to define a class of graphs where all obstacles to colouring are purely “local”.

# Perfect graphs

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- $G$  is *perfect* if  $\chi(H) = \omega(H)$  for any induced subgraph  $H \subseteq G$ .

## Example

- Complete graphs have  $\omega(K_n) = n = \chi(K_n)$ .
- Bipartite graphs have

$$\omega(G) = \chi(G) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } E(G) \neq \emptyset \\ 1 & \text{if } E(G) = \emptyset \end{cases}$$

- Induced subgraphs of complete graphs are complete, and induced subgraphs of bipartite graphs are bipartite, so all such graphs are perfect.

# Comparability graphs

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- A poset is a (finite) set with an order relation  $\leq$  (reflexive, antisymmetric, transitive).

- The *comparability graph* of a poset  $(P, \leq)$  is

$(P, E)$  where  $xy \in E$  whenever  $x \leq y$ .

- (In other words, it is the undirected version of the transitive closure of the Hasse diagram of  $P$ .)

## Theorem

*Comparability graphs of finite posets are perfect.*

## Proof.

Blackboard. □

# Replicating

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- If  $v \in V(G)$ , then  $G'$  is obtained from  $G$  by *replicating*  $v$  if

$$V(G') = V(G) \cup \{v'\}$$

$$E(G') = E(G) \cup \{uv' : uv \in E(G)\} \cup \{vv'\}.$$

# Replicating

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## Theorem

- Assume  $G$  is perfect and  $v \in V(G)$ .
- If  $G'$  is obtained from  $G$  by replicating  $v$ , then  $G'$  is also perfect.



# Combining perfect graphs

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## Theorem

- *Assume  $G$  and  $H$  are perfect graphs.*
- *If  $G \cap H$  is a clique, then  $G \cup H$  is perfect.*

# Chordal graphs

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- The class of *chordal graphs* is defined inductively as follows:
- Complete graphs are chordal.
- If  $G$  and  $H$  are chordal and  $G \cap H$  is a clique, then  $G \cup H$  is chordal.

## Corollary

- *Chordal graphs are perfect.*

# Strong Perfect Graph Theorem

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9: Extremality

10: Ramsey

- Graphs whose only induced cycles are  $C_3$  are chordal, so perfect.
- Graphs whose only induced cycles are even are bipartite, so perfect.
- Graphs that have some odd induced cycle  $C_{2k+1}$ ,  $k \geq 2$ , are *not* perfect.
- What about graphs that have induced even cycles *and* triangles?

# Strong Perfect Graph Theorem

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## Theorem (Chudnovsky, Robertson, Seymour, Thomas, 2006)

- *$G$  is perfect if and only if  $G$  has no induced subgraph  $C_n$  or  $\bar{C}_n$  for  $n \geq 5$  odd.*
- $\Rightarrow$ : Trivial, because  $\omega(C_n) < \chi(C_n)$  and  $\omega(\bar{C}_n) < \chi(\bar{C}_n)$  for odd  $n \geq 5$ .
- $\Leftarrow$ : Extremely difficult. Proof uses technically complicated recursive constructions of all Berge graphs.
  - *Berge graphs* are the pre-SPGT name for graphs that have no induced subgraph  $C_n$  or  $\bar{C}_n$  for  $n \geq 5$  odd.

# Weak Perfect Graph Theorem

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## Theorem (Lovász, 1972)

- $G$  is perfect if and only if  $\bar{G}$  is perfect.
- Clearly, SPGT implies WPGT.
- We prove WPGT as a corollary of the following characterization of perfect graphs.

## Proposition

- $G$  is perfect if and only if

$$\omega(H)\alpha(H) \geq n$$

for all induced subgraphs  $H \subseteq G$ .

# Weak Perfect Graph Theorem

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## Proposition

- $G$  is perfect if and only if

$$\omega(H)\alpha(H) \geq n$$

for all induced subgraphs  $H \subseteq G$ .

## Proof.

- Blackboard. □

# Random graphs

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10: Ramsey

- Two reasons to study random graphs:
- To know what a “typical” graph looks like.
- Existence proofs (via The Probabilistic Method).

# $G(n,p)$ : definition

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10: Ramsey

- For fixed  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $p \in [0, 1]$ , we construct a probability space  $G(n, p)$  of simple graphs with  $n$  vertices.
- $|V| = n$  fixed,  $E \subseteq \binom{V}{2}$  random.
- For  $S \subseteq \binom{V}{2}$ ,  $\mathbb{P}(E = S) = p^{|S|}(1-p)^{\binom{n}{2}-|S|}$ .
- Easy to check: The events  $\{e \in E\}$  are independent for different edges  $e$ .



# $G(n,p)$ : basic properties

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- Sample  $G$   $G(n, p)$ .
- By the union bound:

$$\mathbb{P}(\alpha(G) \geq k) \leq \binom{n}{k} (1-p)^{\binom{k}{2}}$$

and

$$\mathbb{P}(\omega(G) \geq k) \leq \binom{n}{k} p^{\binom{k}{2}}.$$

# Basic probability theory

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- Often it is easier to deal with expected values than with probabilities directly.
- Expected values of random variables can be manipulated by linearity.
- Example:

$$\mathbb{E}(\#K_k \subseteq G) = \sum_{K \in \binom{V}{k}} \mathbb{P}(K \text{ clique in } G) = \binom{n}{k} p^{\binom{k}{2}}$$

# Counting cycles

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- Let  $k \geq 3$ .

■

$$\mathbb{E}(\#k\text{-cycles in } G) = \frac{n!}{2k(n-k)!} p^k$$

- Indeed, there are  $\frac{n!}{2k(n-k)!}$   $k$ -cycles in  $K_n$ .
- Each of these is a cycle in  $G$  with probability  $p^k$ .

# Large random graphs

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- Often, it makes sense to consider random graphs  $G(n, p)$  where  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , and  $p = p(n)$  is allowed to depend on  $n$ .
- Average degree  $\approx \frac{p}{n-1}$ .
- If  $p$  is (approximately) constant, we call the graph sequence *dense*, if  $p = O(\frac{1}{n})$ , then we call it *sparse*.
- Another frequently useful regime is  $p \approx \frac{\log n}{n}$ .

# Erdős Theorem

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- We are ready to prove Erdős's theorem.

## Theorem

- *For all integers  $k, \ell \in \mathbb{N}$ , there exists a graph  $G$  with girth  $> \ell$  and chromatic number  $k$ .*
- Moral: Chromatic number is a fundamentally global invariant.
- A graph can look like a tree within a radius  $\frac{\ell}{2}$  from any vertex, and still have arbitrarily high chromatic number.

# Erdős Theorem

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## Theorem

- *For all integers  $k, \ell \in \mathbb{N}$ , there exists a graph  $G$  with girth  $> \ell$  and chromatic number  $k$ .*
- We will use random graphs to prove this, but the random graphs themselves do not have this property.
- Rather, random graphs with suitably chosen  $p$  have high chromatic number, and *not too many* cycles of length  $< \ell$ .
- So small modifications of random graphs yield the desired example.

# Chromatic numbers of dense graphs

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## Theorem

- Fix  $p \in (0, 1)$ , and let  $G \sim G(n, p)$ .
- Let  $\chi_{n,p} = \frac{\log(1-p)^{-1}}{2} \frac{n}{\log n}$ .
- Fix  $\epsilon > 0$ . Then asymptotically almost surely,

$$\mathbb{P}(\chi(G) \in [(1 - \epsilon)\chi_{n,p}, (1 + \epsilon)\chi_{n,p}]) \rightarrow 1 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

- We prove only the lower bound on the chromatic number:  
 $\chi(G) > (1 - \epsilon)\chi_{n,p}$  asymptotically almost surely.

# Almost sure properties of dense graphs.

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- For  $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $P_{i,j}$  be the following graph property:
- For every two sets  $A, B \subseteq V$  with  $A \cap B = \emptyset$ ,  $|A| = i$ ,  $|B| = j$ , there exists  $v \in V$  such that

$$A \subseteq N(v) \text{ and } B \cap N(v) = \emptyset.$$

- For example,  $P_{1,1}$  is the property that no two vertices have the same neighbourhood.

## Lemma

- Fix  $p \in (0, 1)$  and  $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$ .
- With probability  $\rightarrow 1$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , the graph  $G \sim G(n, p)$  has property  $P_{i,j}$ .



# Almost sure properties of dense graphs.

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## Corollary

- Fix  $p \in (0, 1)$  and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .
- With probability  $\rightarrow 1$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , the graph  $G \sim G(n, p)$  is  $k$ -connected.

$$G(\mathbb{N}_0, p).$$

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- We can construct a probability measure on graphs with a countable vertex set, just like we did for  $G(n, p)$ .
- This “countable random graph” has the property  $P_{i,j}$  almost surely, for all  $i, j$ .
- But there is a *unique* countable graph (up to isomorphism) that has all these properties at once. This is the Rado graph.
- So this random graph is uniquely determined up to isomorphism, with probability one!

# $G(\aleph_0, p)$ .

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## Theorem

- Let  $G$  and  $H$  be graphs with countable vertex sets.
- Assume that both  $G$  and  $H$  have property  $P_{i,j}$  for all  $i, j$ .
- Then  $G \cong H$ .

## Proof.

- Let  $V(G) = v_1, v_2, \dots$ . Construct  $\phi : G \rightarrow H$  recursively.
- Let  $\phi(v_1) \in V(H)$  be arbitrary.
- Recursively, let  $V_k = \{v_1, \dots, v_{k-1}\}$ , and  $N(v_k) \cap V_k = U_k$
- By property  $P_{i,j}$ , there exists  $w \in V(H)$  such that

$$\forall x \in \phi(U_k) : xw \in E \text{ and } \forall x \in \phi(V_k \setminus U_k) : xw \notin E.$$

- Define  $\phi(v_k) = w$ . Then  $\phi : G \rightarrow H$  is an isomorphism. □

# Rado graph

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- Let  $V = \mathbb{Z}_+$ .
- For  $x < y$ , let  $xy \in E$  if and only if the  $x$ :th last digit in the binary extension of  $y$  is 1.
- $N(1) = \{3, 5, 7, 9, \dots\}$ .
- $N(2) = \{3, 6, 7, 10, 11, \dots\}$ .
- $N(3) = \{4, 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 15, \dots\}$ .
- Call  $G = (V, E)$  the Rado graph.
- It has property  $P_{i,j}$  for all  $i, j$ .
- So *up to isomorphism*,  $G(\aleph_0, p)$  is the Rado graph with probability one.

# Guiding questions

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- How many edges can  $G$  have, if  $|V(G)| = n$  and  $\omega(G) < k$ ?
- How many edges can  $G$  have, if  $|V(G)| = n$  and  $\chi(G) < k$ ?
- How many edges can  $G$  have, if  $|V(G)| = n$  and  $G$  has no subgraph isomorphic to  $H$ ?
- How many vertices can  $G$  have, if  $G$  has no subgraph isomorphic to  $H_1$  and  $\bar{G}$  has no subgraph isomorphic to  $H_2$ ?
- How many edges can  $G$  have, if  $|V(G)| = n$  and  $G$  has no *minor* isomorphic to  $H$ ?

# Turán's Theorem

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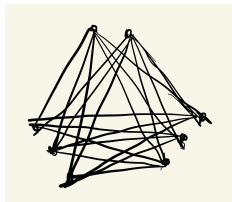
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- How many edges can  $G$  have, if  $|V(G)| = n$  and  $\omega(G) < k$ ?
- How many edges can  $G$  have, if  $|V(G)| = n$  and  $\chi(G) < k$ ?
- Remarkably (?) the answers to these two questions are the same.
- Let  $T_r(n)$  be the complete  $r$ -partite graph with all parts the same size  $\pm 1$ , and  $t_r(n) = |E(T_r(n))|$ .



# Turán's Theorem

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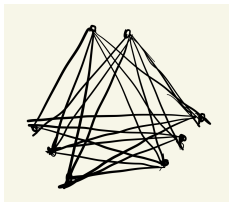
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- Let  $T_r(n)$  be the complete  $r$ -partite graph with all parts the same size  $\pm 1$ , and  $t_r(n) = |E(T_r(n))|$ .



- Clearly,  $\chi(T_r(n)) = \omega(T_r(n)) = r$ .

## Theorem

- *Any graph with  $n$  vertices and  $> t_r(n)$  edges contains a clique of size  $r + 1$ .*

# Turán's Theorem

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## Theorem

- Any graph with  $n$  vertices and  $> t_r(n)$  edges contains a clique of size  $r + 1$ .

## Proof.

- By induction on  $r$ .
- Consider an edge-maximal  $G$  without  $K_{r+1}$ .
- Consider  $H = G \setminus Q$  where  $Q \cong K_r$ .



# Turán's Theorem

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## Theorem

- Any graph with  $n$  vertices and  $> t_r(n)$  edges contains a clique of size  $r + 1$ .

## Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} |E(G)| &= \#(Q - Q)\text{-edges} + \#(Q - H)\text{-edges} + \#(H - H)\text{-edges} \\ &\stackrel{\text{i.H.}}{\leq} \binom{r}{2} + (n - r)(r - 1) + t_r(n - r) \\ &= t_r(n). \end{aligned}$$



# Szemerédi's regularity lemma: paraphrasing

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- “All really large graphs on  $M$  nodes, can be approximated by random graphs constructed as follows:
- Subdivide the  $M$  vertices into  $k \leq M$  parts  $V_1, \dots, V_k$ .
- For  $v_i \in V_i, v_j \in V_j$ , assign  $v_i v_j \in E$  with probability  $p_{ij}$ .”

# $\epsilon$ -regular pairs

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- For  $A, B \subseteq V(G)$  with  $A \cap B = \emptyset$ , let

$$d(A, B) = \frac{\#A - B\text{-edges}}{|A||B|} \in [0, 1].$$

- $A, B$  is an  $\epsilon$ -regular pair if, for all

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

it holds that

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

# $\epsilon$ -regular partitions

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- Fix  $\epsilon > 0$ . A partitioning  $V(G) = V_0 \sqcup V_1 \sqcup \dots \sqcup V_k$  is  $\epsilon$ -regular if:
  - $|V_1| = |V_2| = \dots = |V_k|$ .
  - $|V_0| < \epsilon|V|$ .
  - The number of *not*  $\epsilon$ -regular pairs among  $V_1, \dots, V_k$  is  $< \epsilon k^2$ .

# Szemerédi's regularity lemma

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## Theorem

- *For all  $\epsilon > 0$  and all  $m$ , there exists  $M$  such that:*
  - *Every graph  $G$  admits an  $\epsilon$ -regular partition into  $k$  parts with  $m < k < M$ .*
- 
- Proof strategy: start with an arbitrary partition into  $m$  parts.
  - For each *not*  $\epsilon$ -regular pair  $V, U$  in the partition, subdivide both  $U$  and  $V$  into two parts.
  - Choose a common refinement of such subdivisions. We now have a partition into  $2^{m-1}$  parts.

# Szemerédi's regularity lemma

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- Choose a common refinement of such subdivisions. We now have a partition into  $2^{m-1}$  parts.
- Show that the *potential*  $q$  of the partition has now increased by at least  $\epsilon^5$ , where

$$q(V_1, \dots, V_k) = \sum_{i,j} \frac{|V_i||V_j|}{|V|^2} d^2(V_i, V_j).$$

- The potential is increasing under refinement, and satisfies  $0 < q < 1$ , so the “algorithm” terminates after at most  $\epsilon^{-5}$  refinements.
- The number of parts is thus bounded from above by  $M = M(m, \epsilon)$ .

# Regularity graphs

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# Erdős-Stone's theorem

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## Theorem (Erdős, Stone, 1946)

- *For every  $2 \leq r \leq m$ ,  $\gamma > 0$ , there exists an integer  $N$  such that every graph with  $n \geq N$  vertices and at least  $t_{r-1}(n) + \gamma n^2$  edges contains  $T_r(m)$  as a subgraph.*

## Lemma (Paraphrased)

- *If  $G$  contains  $R$  as a regularity graph with critical edge density  $d > 0$  and  $|G|/|R| \geq 2s/d^\Delta$ , then every subgraph  $H \subseteq R_s$  with maximal degree  $< \Delta$  is also a subgraph of  $G$ .*



# Erdős-Stone's theorem

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## Theorem (Erdős, Stone, 1946)

- *For every  $2 \leq r \leq m$ ,  $\gamma > 0$ , there exists an integer  $N$  such that every graph with  $n \geq N$  vertices and at least  $t_{r-1}(n) + \gamma n^2$  edges contains  $T_r(m)$  as a subgraph.*

## Sketch.

- Consider an  $\epsilon$ -regular partition into  $> 1/\gamma$  parts, and a regularity graph with critical edge density  $\gamma$ .
- This regularity graph has  $n'$  vertices and  $> t_{r-1}(n')$  edges, so contains a  $K_r$  subgraph.
- This yields a  $T_r(m)$  subgraph in  $R_s$  (where  $s = m/n'$ ), so also in  $G$ .



# Erdős-Stone's theorem

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## Theorem

- *For every  $2 \leq r \leq m$ ,  $\gamma > 0$ , there exists an integer  $N$  such that every graph with  $n \geq N$  vertices and at least  $t_{r-1}(n) + \gamma n^2$  edges contains  $T_r(m)$  as a subgraph.*

- So morally, *all* graphs with large enough size and edge density

$$> \frac{t_{r-1}(n)}{n} + \gamma \approx \frac{r-2}{1} + \gamma$$

contains *all*  $r$ -colourable graphs as subgraphs.

# Exclusion numbers

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- For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and a graph  $H$ , let  $\text{ex}(n, H)$  be the largest number of edges in an  $n$  vertex graph with no  $H$  subgraph.
- In particular,  $\text{ex}(n, K_r) = t_{r-1}(n)$

## Corollary

- For every graph  $H$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\text{ex}(n, H)}{\binom{n}{2}} = \frac{\chi(H) - 2}{\chi(H) - 1}.$$

# Exclusion numbers

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## Corollary

- For every graph  $H$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\text{ex}(n, H)}{\binom{n}{2}} = \frac{\chi(H) - 2}{\chi(H) - 1}.$$

- So

$$\text{ex}(n, H) = \begin{cases} \Theta(n^2) & \text{if } H \text{ not bipartite} \\ o(n^2) & \text{if } H \text{ bipartite} \end{cases}$$

# Exclusion numbers

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## Corollary

- For every graph  $H$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\text{ex}(n, H)}{\binom{n}{2}} = \frac{\chi(H) - 2}{\chi(H) - 1}.$$

## Proof.

- Let  $\chi(H) = r$ .
- $H \not\subseteq T_{r-1}(n)$  for all  $n$  but  $H \subseteq T_r(m)$  for large enough  $m$ .
- So

$$t_{r-1}(n) \leq \text{ex}(n, H) \leq \text{ex}(n, T_r(m)).$$

# Exclusion numbers

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## Corollary

- For every graph  $H$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\text{ex}(n, H)}{\binom{n}{2}} = \frac{\chi(H) - 2}{\chi(H) - 1}.$$

## Continued.

- Erdős-Stone:

$$t_{r-1}(n) \leq \text{ex}(n, H) \leq \text{ex}(n, T_r(m)) = t_{r-1}(n) + o(n^2).$$

- 

$$\frac{r-2}{r-1} \leftarrow \frac{t_{r-1}(n)}{\binom{n}{2}} \leq \frac{\text{ex}(n, H)}{\binom{n}{2}} \leq \frac{t_{r-1}(n) + o(n^2)}{\binom{n}{2}} \rightarrow \frac{r-2}{r-1}. \quad \square$$

# Exclusion numbers

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- What is the growth rate of  $\text{ex}(n, H)$  for bipartite graphs?

## Theorem



$$c_1 n^{2 - \frac{2}{r-1}} \leq \text{ex}(n, K_{r,r}) \leq c_2 n^{2 - \frac{1}{r}}$$

for some universal constants  $c_1, c_2$ .

## Conjecture (Erdős-Soós)

- For any tree  $T$  with  $k$  edges,  $\text{ex}(n, T) = \frac{n(k-1)}{2}$ .

# Ramsey

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