

## 9. BK-Reimer inequality

- the FKG inequality says that increasing events are positively correlated.
- the BK-Reimer inequality says: if we require events  $A$  and  $B$  to "occur on disjoint sets of edges" in  $A \cap B$ , then the events "become negatively correlated"

eg) we will see that

$$\mathbb{P}_p \left[ x \leftrightarrow y \text{ and } z \leftrightarrow w \text{ on two disjoint paths} \right] \leq \mathbb{P}_p \left[ x \leftrightarrow y \right] \mathbb{P}_p \left[ z \leftrightarrow w \right]$$

- let's make this rigorous. let  $G = (V, E)$  be any countable graph.

def let  $A \subset \{0, 1\}^E$  be an event and  $w \in \{0, 1\}^E$ .

a set  $S \subset E$  is a witness of  $A$  for  $w$  if  $w \in A$  and  $\forall w' \in \{0, 1\}^E$  which agrees with  $w$  on  $S$ ,  $w' \in A$  too.

def let  $A, B \subset \{0, 1\}^E$  be events.

$$A \circ B := \left\{ w \in \{0, 1\}^E : \exists \text{ witnesses } I = I(w) \text{ of } A, \right.$$

and  $\mathcal{J} = \mathcal{J}(w)$  of  $B$ ,  $I \cap \mathcal{J} = \emptyset$  }.

rmk • we always have  $A \circ B = A \cap B$

• if  $A, B$  are dependent on disjoint sets of edges,  
then  $A \circ B = A \cap B$ .

• lem if  $A$  increasing &  $B$  decreasing, then  
 $A \circ B = A \cap B$ .

thm (BK-Reimer inequality) let  $A, B$  be cylinder events.  
then

$$\mathbb{P}_p[A \circ B] \leq \mathbb{P}_p[A] \mathbb{P}_p[B]$$

rmk proved by van den Berg and Kesten (BK) 1985 for  
increasing events; extended by Reimer 2000 to all  
cylinder events.

proof (we only prove for increasing events).

• let  $E = \{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$ ,  $A, B \subseteq \{0, 1\}^E$ .

• we "duplicate" the edges by adding a second edge  $e'_i$   
for each edge  $e_i$ .



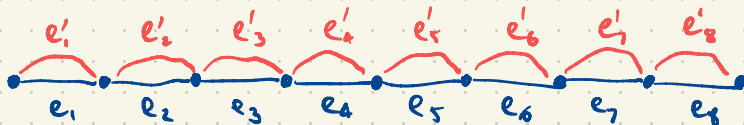
- let  $E' = \{e'_1, \dots, e'_n\}$  and  $\bar{E} = E \cup E'$ . consider  $\bar{\mathbb{P}}_p$ , percolation measure on  $\bar{E}$ .

- we denote elements of  $\{0,1\}^{\bar{E}}$  as  $\bar{w}$ . we then write

$$w = (w_1, \dots, w_n) \quad \text{where} \quad w_i = \bar{w}_{e_i}$$

$$\text{and} \quad w' = (w'_1, \dots, w'_n) \quad \text{where} \quad w'_i = \bar{w}_{e'_i}$$

(eg)

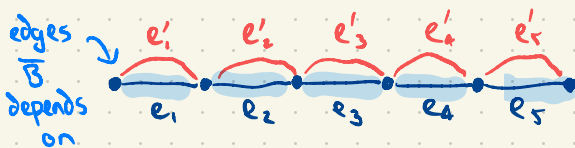
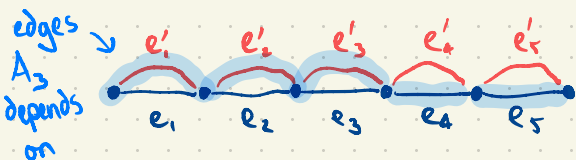


- for  $0 \leq i \leq n$ , let

$$w^{(i)} = (w'_1, w'_2, \dots, w'_i, w_{i+1}, \dots, w_n).$$

$$\text{note } w^{(0)} = w, \quad w^{(n)} = w'.$$

- let  $\bar{A}_i = \{\bar{w} : w^{(i)} \in A\}$ ,  $\bar{B} = \{\bar{w} : w \in B\}$



$$\text{then } \bar{\mathbb{P}}_p[\bar{A}_n \circ \bar{B}] = \bar{\mathbb{P}}_p[\bar{A}_n] \bar{\mathbb{P}}_p[\bar{B}] = \mathbb{P}_p[A] \mathbb{P}_p[B]$$

(as  $\bar{A}_n, \bar{B}$  depend on disjoint sets of edges).

and

$$\overline{P}_p[\overline{A}_0 \circ \overline{B}] = \overline{P}_p[A \circ B].$$

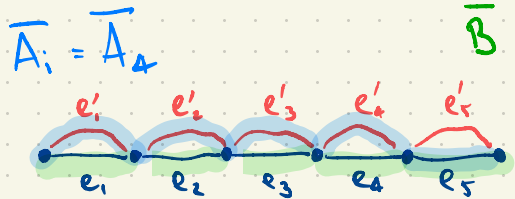
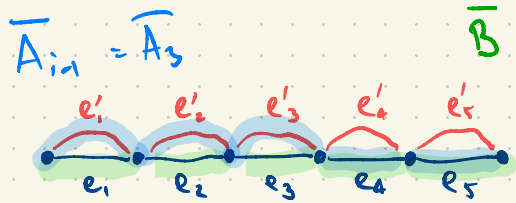
(as both  $\overline{A}_0, \overline{B}$  are defined in terms of  $\omega$ ).

• hence BK-Reimer can be rewritten as

$$\overline{P}_p[\overline{A}_0 \circ \overline{B}] \leq \overline{P}_p[\overline{A}_n \circ \overline{B}],$$

meaning it suffices to prove

$$\boxed{*} \quad \overline{P}_p[\overline{A}_{i-1} \circ \overline{B}] \leq \overline{P}_p[\overline{A}_i \circ \overline{B}] \quad \forall 1 \leq i \leq n.$$



rest is on ex sheet 5

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corollary on  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ , we have, for all  $x, y, z, w \in \mathbb{Z}^d$ ,  
$$P_p(\{x \leftrightarrow y\} \circ \{z \leftrightarrow w\}) \leq P_p(x \leftrightarrow y) P_p(z \leftrightarrow w)$$

where we can set  $w = \infty$ , for example.

proof use BK-Reimer on  $\{x \overset{\wedge_n}{\leftrightarrow} y\}$  and  $\{z \overset{\wedge_n}{\leftrightarrow} w\}$

and take  $n \rightarrow \infty$

for  $w = \infty$ , use  $\{z \overset{\wedge_n}{\leftrightarrow} \partial \Lambda_n\}$  instead. ▀