

# Embedding spanning subgraphs of small bandwidth

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*(joint work with Mathias Schacht & Anusch Taraz)*

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**Question: What about spanning subgraphs?**

Which minimum degree  $\delta(G)$  ensures that every graph  $G$  contains a given spanning graph  $H$ ?

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# Conjecture of Bollobás and Komlós

## Theorem

 $H$ 

- $\chi(H) = k$

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- $\delta(G) \geq (\frac{k-1}{k} + \gamma)n$

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## Bandwidth:

- $\text{bw}(H) \leq b$  if there is a labelling of  $V(H)$  by  $1, \dots, n$  s.t. for all  $\{i, j\} \in E(H)$  we have  $|i - j| \leq b$ .



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## Examples for $H$ :

- Hamiltonian cycles (bandwidth 2)
- bounded degree planar graphs (bandwidth  $O(n/\log_{\Delta} n)$ )
- bounded degree graphs of sublinear tree width



## The bandwidth condition is necessary

- $\chi(H) = k, \Delta(H) \leq \Delta, \text{bw}(H) \leq \beta n$

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## The bandwidth condition is necessary

- $\chi(H) = 2, \Delta(H) \leq \Delta$

- $\delta(G) \geq \left(\frac{2-1}{2} + \gamma\right)n$

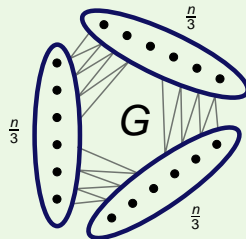
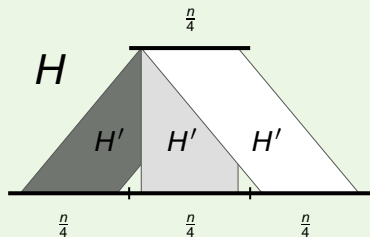
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- $\chi(H) = 2, \Delta(H) \leq \Delta$
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Counterexample:

- $H'$  : random bipartite graph on  $\frac{n}{4} + \frac{n}{4}$  vertices with  $\Delta(H) \leq \frac{\Delta}{3}$ .



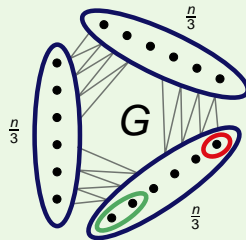
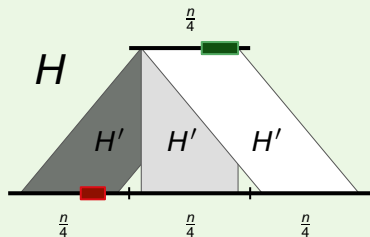


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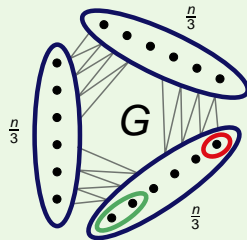
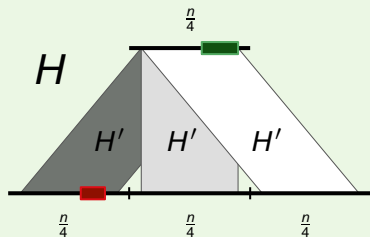


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- Reason:  $G$  has big subsets  $A$  and  $B$  with  $e(A, B)$  empty.

## The rôle of the chromatic number

Theorem (Hajnal, Szemerédi 1969)

If  $\delta(G) \geq \frac{r-1}{r}n \Rightarrow \lfloor \frac{n}{r} \rfloor$  disj. copies of  $K_r \subseteq G$ .

## The rôle of the chromatic number

Theorem (Kömlos, Sárközy, and Szemerédi 2001)

If  $\delta(G) \geq \frac{\chi(H)-1}{\chi(H)}n \Rightarrow \lfloor \frac{n}{|H|} \rfloor$  disj. copies of  $H \subseteq G$ .

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Theorem (Kömlos 2000)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{If } \chi(H) \text{ is replaced by the } \textit{critical chromatic number} \chi_{\text{cr}}(H) \\ \Rightarrow \quad \lfloor \frac{n-\varepsilon n}{|H|} \rfloor \text{ disj. copies of } H \subseteq G . \end{aligned}$$

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Critical chromatic number:

- $\sigma := \min_{\text{col. of } H} |\text{smallest colour class}|$
- $\chi_{cr}(H) := (\chi(H) - 1) \frac{|H|}{|H| - \sigma}$
- it follows that  $\chi(H) - 1 \leq \chi_{cr}(H) \leq \chi(H)$

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## Theorem

For all  $k, \Delta \geq 1$ , and  $\gamma > 0$  exists  $n_0$  and  $\beta > 0$  s.t.

- $H$  has a  $(k + 1)$ -colouring that colours  $\leq \beta n$  vertices with 0 and is  $(8k\beta n, 4k\beta n)$ -zero free,  $\Delta(H) \leq \Delta$ ,  $\text{bw}(H) \leq \beta n$
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Assume  $V(G)$  is labelled with  $[n]$ .

A  $(k + 1)$ -colouring is  $(x, y)$ -zero free if for all  $t \in [n]$  there is  $t' \in [t, t + x]$  s.t. no vertex in  $[t', t' + y]$  is coloured 0. (colours  $\{0, \dots, k\}$ )



## Concluding remarks

### Theorem

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SEE KÜHN, OSTHUS 2007+

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- When can the chromatic number be replaced by the chritical chromatic number? SEE KÜHN, OSTHUS 2007+
- What about spanning graphs  $H$  of non-constant max. degree?
- Which further restrictions on  $G$  allow us to ommit the bandwidth restriction on  $H$ ?