

Bounded Degree Subgraphs of Dense Graphs

Julia Böttcher

Technische Universität München

13th International Conference on Random Structures and Algorithms,
May 28-June 1, 2007, Tel Aviv

(joint work with Mathias Schacht & Anusch Taraz)

Subgraph containment problem

Question

- Given a graph H , which conditions on an n -vertex graph $G = (V, E)$ ensure $H \subseteq G$?

Subgraph containment problem

Question

- Given a graph H , which conditions on an n -vertex graph $G = (V, E)$ ensure $H \subseteq G$?
- Our aim: every graph $G = (V, E)$ with minimum degree $\delta(G) \geq ??$ contains a given graph H .

Subgraph containment problem

Question

- Given a graph H , which conditions on an n -vertex graph $G = (V, E)$ ensure $H \subseteq G$?
- Our aim: every graph $G = (V, E)$ with minimum degree $\delta(G) \geq ??$ contains a given graph H .

H of small/fixed size

Erdős–Stone: $\delta(G) \geq \left(\frac{\chi(H)-2}{\chi(H)-1} + o(1) \right) n \implies H \subseteq G.$

Subgraph containment problem

Question

- Given a graph H , which conditions on an n -vertex graph $G = (V, E)$ ensure $H \subseteq G$?
- Our aim: every graph $G = (V, E)$ with minimum degree $\delta(G) \geq ??$ contains a given graph H .

H of small/fixed size

Erdős–Stone: $\delta(G) \geq \left(\frac{\chi(H)-2}{\chi(H)-1} + o(1) \right) n \implies H \subseteq G.$

This talk

H is a **spanning** subgraph of G .

Subgraph containment problem

Question

- Given a graph H , which conditions on an n -vertex graph $G = (V, E)$ ensure $H \subseteq G$?
- Our aim: every graph $G = (V, E)$ with minimum degree $\delta(G) \geq ??$ contains a given graph H .

Classical example:

$$\delta(G) \geq \frac{1}{2}n \Rightarrow \text{Ham} \subseteq G$$


DIRAC '52

This talk

H is a **spanning** subgraph of G .

From Small Graphs to Spanning Graphs

- A graph H of constant size is forced in G , when

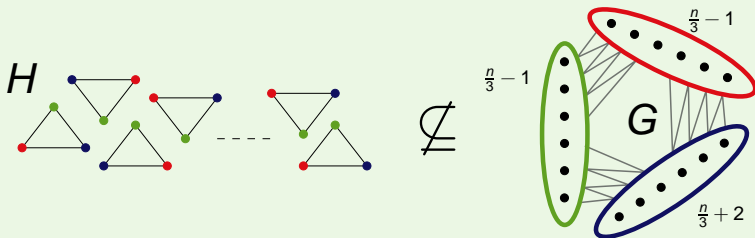
$$\delta(G) \geq \left(\frac{\chi(H) - 2}{\chi(H) - 1} + o(1) \right) n.$$

From Small Graphs to Spanning Graphs

- A graph H of constant size is forced in G , when

$$\delta(G) \geq \left(\frac{\chi(H) - 2}{\chi(H) - 1} + o(1) \right) n.$$

- For spanning H we need at least $\delta(G) \geq \frac{\chi(H)-1}{\chi(H)}n$, because:

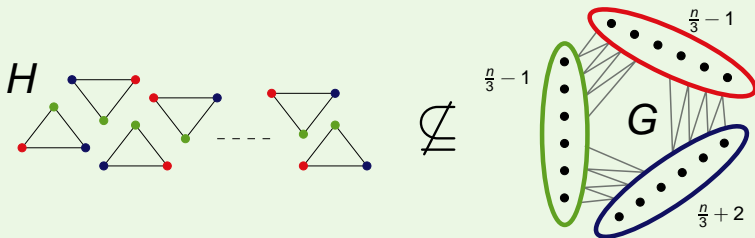


From Small Graphs to Spanning Graphs

- A graph H of constant size is forced in G , when

$$\delta(G) \geq \left(\frac{\chi(H) - 2}{\chi(H) - 1} + o(1) \right) n.$$

- For spanning H we need at least $\delta(G) \geq \frac{\chi(H)-1}{\chi(H)}n$, because:



- Does $\delta(G) \geq \left(\frac{\chi(H)-1}{\chi(H)} + o(1) \right) n$ imply $H \subseteq G$?

Big Graphs

Does $\delta(G) \geq \left(\frac{\chi(H)-1}{\chi(H)} + o(1) \right) n$ imply $H \subseteq G$?

Big Graphs

Does $\delta(G) \geq \left(\frac{\chi(H)-1}{\chi(H)} + o(1) \right) n$ imply $H \subseteq G$?

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

HAJNAL, SZEMERÉDI'69

Big Graphs

Does $\delta(G) \geq \left(\frac{\chi(H)-1}{\chi(H)} + o(1) \right) n$ imply $H \subseteq G$?

■ $\delta(G) \geq \frac{2}{3}n \Rightarrow$  $\subseteq G$

The diagram shows three triangles, each with three vertices and three edges. The first triangle is on the left, the second is in the middle, and the third is on the right. They are connected by a horizontal dashed line between the right vertex of the first triangle and the left vertex of the second triangle, and between the right vertex of the second triangle and the left vertex of the third triangle. The entire structure is enclosed in a subset symbol \subseteq followed by the letter G .

HAJNAL, SZEMERÉDI'69

Big Graphs

Does $\delta(G) \geq \left(\frac{\chi(H)-1}{\chi(H)} + o(1) \right) n$ imply $H \subseteq G$?

■ $\delta(G) \geq \frac{2}{3}n \Rightarrow$  $\subseteq G$

HAJNAL, SZEMERÉDI '69

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

Alon-Yuster conjecture

KOMLÓS, SÁRKÖZY, AND SZEMERÉDI '01

Big Graphs

Does $\delta(G) \geq \left(\frac{\chi(H)-1}{\chi(H)} + o(1) \right) n$ imply $H \subseteq G$?

■ $\delta(G) \geq \frac{2}{3}n \Rightarrow$  $\subseteq G$

HAJNAL, SZEMERÉDI '69

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

Alon-Yuster conjecture

KOMLÓS, SÁRKÖZY, AND SZEMERÉDI '01

■ $\delta(G) \geq \frac{r-1}{r}n \Rightarrow (Ham)^r \subseteq G.$

FAN, KIERSTEAD '95

KOMLÓS, SÁRKÖZY, AND SZEMERÉDI '98

Big Graphs

Does $\delta(G) \geq \left(\frac{\chi(H)-1}{\chi(H)} + o(1) \right) n$ imply $H \subseteq G$?

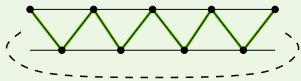
■ $\delta(G) \geq \frac{2}{3}n \Rightarrow$  $\subseteq G$

HAJNAL, SZEMERÉDI '69

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

Alon-Yuster conjecture

KOMLÓS, SÁRKÖZY, AND SZEMERÉDI '01

■ $\delta(G) \geq \frac{2}{3}n \Rightarrow \text{Ham}^2$  $\subseteq G$

Pósa's conjecture

FAN, KIERSTEAD '95

KOMLÓS, SÁRKÖZY, AND SZEMERÉDI '98

Big Graphs

Does $\delta(G) \geq \left(\frac{\chi(H)-1}{\chi(H)} + o(1)\right)n$ imply $H \subseteq G$?


■ $\delta(G) \geq \frac{2}{3}n \Rightarrow$  $\subseteq G$

HAJNAL, SZEMERÉDI '69

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

Alon-Yuster conjecture

KOMLÓS, SÁRKÖZY, AND SZEMERÉDI '01

■ $\delta(G) \geq \frac{2}{3}n \Rightarrow \text{Ham}^2$  $\subseteq G$

Pósa's conjecture

FAN, KIERSTEAD '95

■ $\delta(G) \geq \left(\frac{1}{2} + \gamma\right)n \Rightarrow$ every spanning tree with $\Delta(T) \leq \frac{cn}{\log n} \subseteq G$.

Tree universality

KOMLÓS, SÁRKÖZY, AND SZEMERÉDI '95

Generalizing Conjecture

Naïve conjecture

H

G

Generalizing Conjecture

Naïve conjecture

 H

- $\chi(H) = k$

 G

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

Generalizing Conjecture

Naïve conjecture

 H

- $\chi(H) = k$
- $\Delta(H) \leq \Delta$

 G

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

Generalizing Conjecture

Naïve conjecture

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

H

- $\chi(H) = k$
- $\Delta(H) \leq \Delta$

G

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

$\implies G$ contains H .

Generalizing Conjecture

Naïve conjecture

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

H

- $\chi(H) = k$
- $\Delta(H) \leq \Delta$

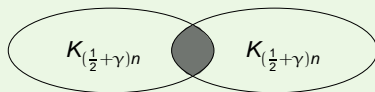
G

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

$\implies G$ contains H .

Counterexample:

- H : random bipartite graph on $\frac{n}{2} + \frac{n}{2}$ vertices with $\Delta(H) \leq \Delta$.
- G : two cliques of size $(\frac{1}{2} + \gamma)n$ sharing $2\gamma n$ vertices.



Conjecture of Bollobás and Komlós

Conjecture

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

H

- $\chi(H) = k$
- $\Delta(H) \leq \Delta$

G

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

$\implies G$ contains H .

Conjecture of Bollobás and Komlós

Theorem

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

H

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

G

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

$\implies G$ contains H .

Examples for H :

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



Conjecture of Bollobás and Komlós

Theorem

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

H

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

G

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

$\implies G$ contains H .

- Abbasi '98 announced 2-chromatic case (see also Hiệp Hàn '06)
- additional γn is necessary
- Proof uses **regularity lemma**, **blow-up lemma**, and **affirmative solution of Pósa's conjecture**



Conjecture of Bollobás and Komlós

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

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

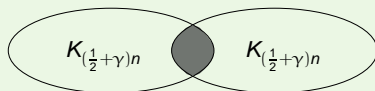
$\implies G$ contains H

Naïve conjecture

- $\chi(H) = 2, \Delta(H) \leq \Delta$
- $\delta(G) \geq \left(\frac{2-1}{2} + \gamma\right)n \implies G \text{ contains } H$

Counterexample:

- H : random bipartite graph on $\frac{n}{2} + \frac{n}{2}$ vertices with $\Delta(H) \leq \Delta$.
- G : two cliques of size $\left(\frac{1}{2} + \gamma\right)n$ sharing $2\gamma n$ vertices.



Increasing the minimum degree

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

- $\delta(G) \geq \left(\frac{3-1}{3} + \gamma\right)n$

$\implies G$ contains H

Increasing the minimum degree

- $\chi(H) = 2, \Delta(H) \leq \Delta$
- $\delta(G) \geq \left(\frac{3-1}{3} + \gamma\right)n \implies G \text{ contains } H$

Counterexample:

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

Increasing the minimum degree

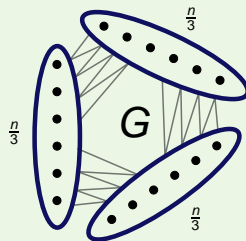
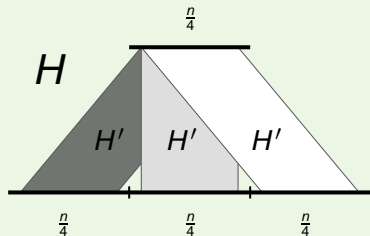
- $\chi(H) = 2, \Delta(H) \leq \Delta$

- $\delta(G) \geq \left(\frac{3-1}{3} + \gamma\right)n$

$\implies G$ contains H

Counterexample:

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



Increasing the minimum degree

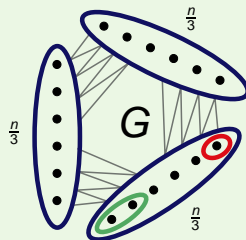
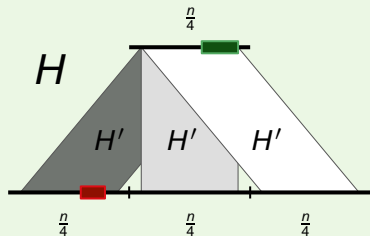
- $\chi(H) = 2, \Delta(H) \leq \Delta$

- $\delta(G) \geq \left(\frac{3-1}{3} + \gamma\right)n$

$\implies G$ contains H

Counterexample:

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



Increasing the minimum degree

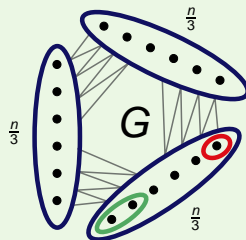
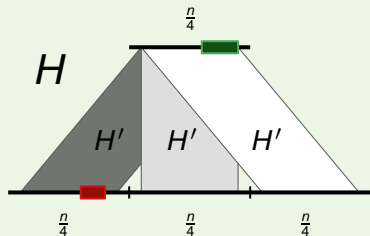
- $\chi(H) = 2, \Delta(H) \leq \Delta$

- $\delta(G) \geq \left(\frac{3-1}{3} + \gamma\right)n$

$\implies G$ contains H

Counterexample:

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



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

Quasi-random graphs

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

Quasi-random graphs

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

- (n, d, λ) -graphs G (i.e. d -regular with $\lambda(G) \leq \lambda$) have

$$\left| e(A, B) - \frac{d}{n}|A||B| \right| \leq \lambda \sqrt{|A||B|} \quad \text{for all } A, B \subseteq V(G).$$

Quasi-random graphs

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

- (n, d, λ) -graphs G (i.e. d -regular with $\lambda(G) \leq \lambda$) have

$$\left| e(A, B) - \frac{d}{n}|A||B| \right| \leq \lambda \sqrt{|A||B|} \quad \text{for all } A, B \subseteq V(G).$$

Observation

For $d = \gamma n$ and $\lambda = o(n)$ every (sufficiently large) (n, d, λ) -graph G contains all H on n vertices with $\Delta(H) \leq \Delta$.

Quasi-random graphs

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

- (n, d, λ) -graphs G (i.e. d -regular with $\lambda(G) \leq \lambda$) have

$$\left| e(A, B) - \frac{d}{n}|A||B| \right| \leq \lambda \sqrt{|A||B|} \quad \text{for all } A, B \subseteq V(G).$$

Observation

For $d = \gamma n$ and $\lambda = o(n)$ every (sufficiently large) (n, d, λ) -graph G contains all H on n vertices with $\Delta(H) \leq \Delta$.

Because:

- H has an $\Delta + 1$ -colouring with colour classes of equal size. (THM OF H.S.Z.)

Quasi-random graphs

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

- (n, d, λ) -graphs G (i.e. d -regular with $\lambda(G) \leq \lambda$) have

$$\left| e(A, B) - \frac{d}{n}|A||B| \right| \leq \lambda \sqrt{|A||B|} \quad \text{for all } A, B \subseteq V(G).$$

Observation

For $d = \gamma n$ and $\lambda = o(n)$ every (sufficiently large) (n, d, λ) -graph G contains all H on n vertices with $\Delta(H) \leq \Delta$.

Because:

- H has an $\Delta + 1$ -colouring with colour classes of equal size. (THM OF H.S.Z.)
- **Every** equi-partition of G into $\Delta + 1$ parts is ε -regular.

Quasi-random graphs

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

- (n, d, λ) -graphs G (i.e. d -regular with $\lambda(G) \leq \lambda$) have

$$\left| e(A, B) - \frac{d}{n}|A||B| \right| \leq \lambda \sqrt{|A||B|} \quad \text{for all } A, B \subseteq V(G).$$

Observation

For $d = \gamma n$ and $\lambda = o(n)$ every (sufficiently large) (n, d, λ) -graph G contains all H on n vertices with $\Delta(H) \leq \Delta$.

Because:

- H has an $\Delta + 1$ -colouring with colour classes of equal size. (THM OF H.S.Z.)
- **Every** equi-partition of G into $\Delta + 1$ parts is ε -regular.
- There is such a partition that is also **super-regular**.

Quasi-random graphs

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

- (n, d, λ) -graphs G (i.e. d -regular with $\lambda(G) \leq \lambda$) have

$$\left| e(A, B) - \frac{d}{n}|A||B| \right| \leq \lambda \sqrt{|A||B|} \quad \text{for all } A, B \subseteq V(G).$$

Observation

For $d = \gamma n$ and $\lambda = o(n)$ every (sufficiently large) (n, d, λ) -graph G contains all H on n vertices with $\Delta(H) \leq \Delta$.

Because:

- H has an $\Delta + 1$ -colouring with colour classes of equal size. (THM OF H.SZ.)
- **Every** equi-partition of G into $\Delta + 1$ parts is ε -regular.
- There is such a partition that is also **super-regular**.
- By blow-up lemma, G contains H .

(KOMLÓS, SÁRKÖZY, SZEMERÉDI)

Quasi-random graphs

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

- (n, d, λ) -graphs G (i.e. d -regular with $\lambda(G) \leq \lambda$) have

$$\left| e(A, B) - \frac{d}{n}|A||B| \right| \leq \lambda \sqrt{|A||B|} \quad \text{for all } A, B \subseteq V(G).$$

Observation

For $d = \gamma n$ and $\lambda = o(n)$ every (sufficiently large) (n, d, λ) -graph G contains all H on n vertices with $\Delta(H) \leq \Delta$.

What about sparser graphs?

Quasi-random graphs

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

- (n, d, λ) -graphs G (i.e. d -regular with $\lambda(G) \leq \lambda$) have

$$|e(A, B) - \frac{d}{n}|A||B|| \leq \lambda\sqrt{|A||B|} \quad \text{for all } A, B \subseteq V(G).$$

Observation

For $d = \gamma n$ and $\lambda = o(n)$ every (sufficiently large) (n, d, λ) -graph G contains all H on n vertices with $\Delta(H) \leq \Delta$.

What about sparser graphs?

- If $\lambda(G) = o\left(\frac{d^3}{n^2 \log n}\right)$ (i.e. $d \gg n^{4/5} \log^{2/5} n$) then G has a triangle factor.

KRIVELEVICH, SUDAKOV, SZABÓ'04

Concluding remarks

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

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

$\implies G$ contains H

Concluding remarks

- $\chi(H) = k, \Delta(H) \leq \Delta, \text{bw}(H) \leq \beta n$
 - $\delta(G) \geq \left(\frac{k-1}{k} + \gamma\right)n \implies G \text{ contains } H$
-
- Which further restrictions on G allow us to omit the bandwidth restriction on H ?

Concluding remarks

- $\chi(H) = k, \Delta(H) \leq \Delta, \text{bw}(H) \leq \beta n$
 - $\delta(G) \geq \left(\frac{k-1}{k} + \gamma\right)n \implies G \text{ contains } H$
-
- Which further restrictions on G allow us to omit the bandwidth restriction on H ?
 - How many copies of H do we get?
(for bipartite H see Person'07)

Concluding remarks

- $\chi(H) = k, \Delta(H) \leq \Delta, \text{bw}(H) \leq \beta n$
 - $\delta(G) \geq \left(\frac{k-1}{k} + \gamma\right)n \implies G \text{ contains } H$
-
- Which further restrictions on G allow us to omit the bandwidth restriction on H ?
 - How many copies of H do we get?
(for bipartite H see Person'07)
 - What about spanning graphs H of non-constant max. degree?

Concluding remarks

- $\chi(H) = k, \Delta(H) \leq \Delta, \text{bw}(H) \leq \beta n$
 - $\delta(G) \geq \left(\frac{k-1}{k} + \gamma\right)n \implies G \text{ contains } H$
-
- Which further restrictions on G allow us to omit the bandwidth restriction on H ?
 - How many copies of H do we get?
(for bipartite H see Person'07)
 - What about spanning graphs H of non-constant max. degree?

Concluding remarks

- $\chi(H) = k, \Delta(H) \leq \Delta, \text{bw}(H) \leq \beta n$
 - $\delta(G) \geq \left(\frac{k-1}{k} + \gamma\right)n \implies G \text{ contains } H$
-
- Which further restrictions on G allow us to omit the bandwidth restriction on H ?
 - How many copies of H do we get?
(for bipartite H see Person'07)
 - What about spanning graphs H of non-constant max. degree?

Bá Łakashah!