

# WELCOME TO THE SUMMER SCHOOL

## Probabilistic Methods in Combinatorics\*

Graz Maria Trost, July 17-19

**Course A** Michael Drmota

*The probabilistic method, random graphs and Stein's method*

**Course B** Philippe Flajolet

*Singularities and Random Combinatorial Structures*

**Course C** Ralph Neininger

*Distributional analysis of recursive algorithms and random trees*

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*Analytic Combinatorics and Probabilistic Number Theory.*

	Monday, July 17	Tuesday, July 18	Wednesday, July 19
08:45 – 08:50	Opening		
08:50 – 09:35	A 1	B 2	C 3
09:35 – 09:45	Short Break		
09:45 – 10:30	A 1	B 2, Exercises	C 3
10:30 – 10:50	Break		
10:50 – 11:35	B 1	C 2	A 4
11:35 – 11:45	Short Break		
11:45 – 12:30	B 1	C 2, Exercises	A 4 Exercises
12:30	Lunch		
14:50 – 15:35	C 1	A 3	B 4
15:35 – 15:45	Short Break		
15:45 – 16:30	C 1	A 3	B 4 Exercises
16:30 – 16:50	Break		
16:50 – 17:35	A 2	B 3	C 4
17:35 – 17:45	Short Break		
17:45 – 18:30	A 2 Exercises	B 3	C 4 Exercises
18:30	Dinner		

# SUMMER SCHOOL ON PROBABILISTIC METHODS IN COMBINATORICS

## The Probabilistic Method, Random Graphs and Stein's Method

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- Lower Bound for the Ramsey Number
- First Moment Method
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- Random Graphs
- Central Limit Theorem
- Stein's Method
- Application to Random Graphs

# Introduction

The **Probabilistic Method** has been initiated by Paul Erdős (1947) in order to prove the existence of certain combinatorial objects. The principle idea is to define a proper probability distribution on a class of (discrete) objects and to show that the probability of a certain property is positive. Of course this also proves that there exists such an object with this property. We will apply this approach to various problems on **random graphs**.

However, the main goal of this course is to give an introduction to **Stein's method** that proves asymptotic normality for sums of (in some sense) weakly dependent random variables. This method has turned out to be very successful, in particular in random graph problems.

# Books

**Noga Alon and Joel H. Spencer.** *The probabilistic method.* Second edition. Wiley-Interscience, New York, 2000

**Béla Bollobás,** *Random graphs.* Second edition. Cambridge Studies in Advanced Mathematics, 73. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2001.

**Svante Janson, Tomasz Łuczak, and Andrzej Rucinski,** *Random graphs.* Wiley-Interscience Series in Discrete Mathematics and Optimization. Wiley-Interscience, New York, 2000

**Valentin F. Kolchin,** *Random graphs.* Encyclopedia of Mathematics and its Applications, 53. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1999.

# Books

**Charles Stein**, *Approximate computation of expectations*. Institute of Mathematical Statistics Lecture Notes—Monograph Series, 7. Institute of Mathematical Statistics, Hayward, CA, 1986.

**Andrew D. Barbour, Lars Holst, and Svante Janson**. *Poisson approximation*, Oxford Studies in Probability, 2. Oxford Science Publications. The Clarendon Press, Oxford University Press, New York, 1992.

# Lower Bound for the Ramsey Number

**Definition** *The Ramsey number  $R(k, l)$  is the smallest number  $n$  such that any 2-coloring of the edges on the complete graph  $K_n$  on  $n$  vertices contains either a monochromatic  $K_k$  (in  $K_n$ ) of the first color or a monochromatic  $K_l$  (in  $K_n$ ) of the second color.*

**Ramsey's theorem:**  $R(k, l)$  exists for all positive integers  $k$  and  $l$ .

**Example:**  $R(3, 3) = 6$ .

**Remark:**  $R(k, k) \leq (4 + o(1))^k$ .



# Lower Bound for the Ramsey Number

## Theorem

$$R(k, k) > 2^{k/2}$$

for all  $k \geq 3$ .

## *Proof*

$K_n$  ... complete graph with vertex set  $\{1, 2, \dots\}$

Take a random 2-coloring of the  $\binom{n}{2}$  edges

(Each edge is colored independently and with equal probability  $\frac{1}{2}$ .)

# Lower Bound for the Ramsey Number

$$R \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots\}, |R| = k$$

$A_R := \{\text{the induced subgraph of } R \text{ is monochromatic}\}$

$$\implies \mathbb{P}(A_R) = 2 \frac{1}{2^{\binom{k}{2}}} = 2^{1 - \binom{k}{2}}$$

$$\implies \mathbb{P}\{\exists R \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots\} : |R| = k, A_R \text{ occurs}\} \leq \binom{n}{k} 2^{1 - \binom{k}{2}}.$$

# Lower Bound for the Ramsey Number

$$n = \lfloor 2^{k/2} \rfloor \text{ (and } k \geq 3)$$

$$\implies \binom{n}{k} 2^{1-\binom{k}{2}} < 2 \frac{n^k}{k!} \frac{1}{2^{k^2/2-k/2}} \leq 2 \frac{2^{k/2}}{k!} < 1$$

$$\implies \mathbb{P}\{\forall R \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots\} : |R| = k, R \text{ is not monochromatic}\} > 0$$

$$\implies \boxed{R(k, k) > n}.$$

# Lower Bound for the Ramsey Number

**Notation:** We use the notion *almost always* as an abbreviation for the property that the probability that a certain condition holds converges to 1 as the *size* of the problem goes to the infinity.

**Remark.**  $n = \lfloor 2^{k/2} \rfloor \iff k = \lceil 2 \log_2 n \rceil$ ,

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} 2 \frac{2^{k/2}}{k!} = 0$$

$\implies$  Almost always there exists no monochromatic  $K_{\lceil 2 \log_2 n \rceil}$  in a randomly edge colored  $K_n$ .

# First Moment Method

Linearity of the expectation:

$$X = \sum_{i \in I} Y_i \implies \mathbb{E} X = \sum_{i \in I} \mathbb{E} Y_i$$

- The expected value is usually easy to compute.
- The dependence structure between the  $Y_i$  is irrelevant.

# First Moment Method

**Theorem** Suppose that  $\mathbb{E} X$  is finite.

$$\implies \boxed{\mathbb{P}\{X \leq \mathbb{E} X\} > 0} \quad \text{and} \quad \boxed{\mathbb{P}\{X \geq \mathbb{E} X\} > 0}.$$

*Proof* (indirect)

Suppose that  $\mathbb{P}\{X \leq \mathbb{E} X\} = 0$

$$\implies \mathbb{P}\{X > \mathbb{E} X\} = 1$$

$$\implies \mathbb{E} X = \mathbb{E} \left( \mathbb{I}_{[X > \mathbb{E} X]} \cdot X \right) = \mathbb{E} X + \underbrace{\mathbb{E} \left( \mathbb{I}_{[X > \mathbb{E} X]} \cdot (X - \mathbb{E} X) \right)}_{> 0} > \mathbb{E} X$$

which is a contradiction!

# First Moment Method

## Theorem

$X$  ... discrete random variable on **non-negative integers**.

$$\implies \boxed{\mathbb{P}\{X > 0\} \leq \mathbb{E} X}.$$

*Proof*

$$\mathbb{E} X = \sum_{k \geq 0} k \mathbb{P}\{X = k\} \leq \sum_{k \geq 1} \mathbb{P}\{X = k\} = \mathbb{P}\{X > 0\}.$$

# First Moment Method

As an **first application** we prove  $R(k, k) > 2^{k/2}$  a second time:

$K_n$  ... complete graph with vertex set  $\{1, 2, \dots\}$

Take a random 2-coloring of the  $\binom{n}{2}$  edges

$\mathcal{S}_{n,k}$  ... set of all subgraphs of  $K_n$  with  $k$  nodes

$$\implies \boxed{X_n := \sum_{R \in \mathcal{S}_{n,k}} \mathbb{I}[R \text{ is monochromatic}]}$$

is the **(random) number of monochromatic subgraphs of  $K_n$  that are isomorphic to  $K_k$ .**



# First Moment Method

$$X_n = \sum_{R \in \mathcal{S}_{n,k}} \mathbb{I}_{[R \text{ is monochromatic}]}$$

$$\implies \mathbb{E} X_n = \sum_{R \in \mathcal{S}_{n,k}} \mathbb{P}\{R \text{ is monochromatic}\} = \binom{n}{k} 2 \cdot 2^{-\binom{k}{2}}$$

$$\implies \mathbb{P}\{X_n > 0\} \leq \binom{n}{k} 2^{1-\binom{k}{2}} < 2 \frac{2^{k/2}}{k!} < 1$$

$$\implies \boxed{\mathbb{P}\{X_n = 0\} > 0}.$$

# First Moment Method

## Theorem

$v_1, \dots, v_n$  ... unit vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$

$\implies \exists \varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_n \in \{-1, +1\}$ :

$$|\varepsilon_1 v_1 + \dots + \varepsilon_n v_n| \leq \sqrt{n}$$

$\implies \exists \varepsilon'_1, \dots, \varepsilon'_n \in \{-1, +1\}$ :

$$|\varepsilon'_1 v_1 + \dots + \varepsilon'_n v_n| \geq \sqrt{n}.$$

# First Moment Method

*Proof*

$\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_n \in \{-1, +1\}$  random signs (independent equal probability  $\frac{1}{2}$ )

$$\begin{aligned} X &:= \left| \sum_{i=1}^n \varepsilon_i v_i \right|^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \varepsilon_i \varepsilon_j v_i \cdot v_j \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbb{E} (\varepsilon_i \varepsilon_j) = \delta_{i,j}$$

$$\implies \mathbb{E} X = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \mathbb{E} (\varepsilon_i \varepsilon_j) v_i \cdot v_j = \sum_{i=1}^n v_i \cdot v_i = n.$$

+ application of first moment method.

# First Moment Method

**Definition** A set of nodes  $I$  in a graph  $G$  is called **independent** if no two nodes of  $I$  are adjacent.

The **independence number**  $\alpha(G)$  of  $G$  is the maximal size of an independent set of nodes of  $G$ .

## Theorem

$G = (V, E)$  ... graph with  $|V| = n$  nodes and  $|E| = m \geq n/2$  edges.

$$\implies \boxed{\alpha(G) \geq \frac{n^2}{4m}}.$$

# First Moment Method

*Proof*

$$p = n/(2m) \implies 0 \leq p \leq 1.$$

$S$  ... random subset of vertices:  $\mathbb{P}\{v \in S\} = p$  (independent)

$$X = |S| \text{ ... (random) size of } S, \quad \mathbb{E} X = np = \frac{n^2}{2m}$$

$Y$  .. (random) number of edges in  $G|_S$  (= induced subgraph of  $G$ )

$$Y = \sum_{e \in E} \mathbb{I}_{[\text{both endpoints of } e \text{ are in } S]}$$

# First Moment Method

$$Y = \sum_{e \in E} \mathbb{I}_{[\text{both endpoints of } e \text{ are in } S]}$$

$$\implies \mathbb{E} Y = \sum_{e \in E} p^2 = mp^2 = \frac{n^2}{4m}$$

$$\implies \mathbb{E}(X - Y) = np - mp^2 = \frac{n^2}{2m} - \frac{n^2}{4m} = \frac{n^2}{4m}.$$

# First Moment Method

- There exists some specific  $S$  for which the number of vertices of  $S$  minus the number of edges of  $S$  is at least  $n^2/(4m)$ .
- Select one vertex from each edge of  $S$  and delete it. This leaves a set  $S^*$  with at least  $n^2/(4m)$  vertices.
- $S^*$  is an independent set (all edges of  $S$  have been destroyed)

$$\implies \boxed{\alpha(G) \geq \frac{n^2}{4m}}$$

# First Moment Method

**Definition** *The **girth**  $\text{girth}(G)$  of a graph  $G$  is the size of the shortest cycle.*

*The **chromatic number**  $\chi(G)$  of a graph  $G$  is the smallest number  $k$  such that there exists a regular  $k$ -coloring of the vertices of  $G$ , that is, a coloring of at  $k$  colors of the vertices such that adjacent vertices have different colors.*

**Theorem** [Erdős 1959]

For all (positive integers)  $k$  and  $\ell$  there exists a graph  $G$  with

$$\boxed{\text{girth}(G) > \ell} \quad \text{and} \quad \boxed{\chi(G) > k}.$$



# First Moment Method

*Proof*

$p = n^{\theta-1}$  for some  $0 < \theta < 1/\ell$  ( $n$  be chosen sufficiently large)

$V = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  ... vertex set of a random graph:

$$\mathbb{P}\{e \in E(G)\} = p \quad (\text{independently})$$

$X$  ...number of cycles of size  $\leq \ell$ .

$$\theta\ell < 1$$

$$\implies \mathbb{E} X = \sum_{i=3}^{\ell} \frac{\binom{n}{i}}{2^i} p^i \leq \sum_{i=3}^{\ell} \frac{n^i}{2^i} n^{(\theta-1)i} = \sum_{i=3}^{\ell} \frac{n^{\theta i}}{2^i} = o(n).$$

# First Moment Method

$$\mathbb{E} X \geq \mathbb{E} \left( X \cdot \mathbb{I}_{[X \geq n/2]} \right) \geq \frac{n}{2} \mathbb{P}\{X \geq n/2\}$$

$$\mathbb{E} X = o(n)$$

$$\implies \boxed{\mathbb{P}\{X \geq n/2\} = o(1)}.$$

# First Moment Method

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}\{\alpha(G) \geq m\} &= \mathbb{P}\{\exists S \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, n\} : |S| = m, S \text{ is independent}\} \\ &\leq \mathbb{E} \left( \sum_{|S|=m} \mathbb{I}_{[S \text{ is independent}]} \right) \\ &= \sum_{|S|=m} \mathbb{P}\{S \text{ is independent}\} \\ &= \binom{n}{m} (1-p)^{\binom{m}{2}} \\ &\leq \frac{n^m}{m!} e^{-p \binom{m}{2}} \\ &\leq (ne^{-p(m-1)/2})^m\end{aligned}$$

# First Moment Method

$$m = m(n) = \lceil \frac{3}{p} \log n \rceil \sim 3n^{1-\theta} \log n$$

$$\implies ne^{-p(m-1)/2} \rightarrow 0 \quad (n \rightarrow \infty)$$

$$\implies \boxed{\mathbb{P}\{\alpha(G) \geq m(n)\} \rightarrow 0} \quad (n \rightarrow \infty)$$

# First Moment Method

$n$  sufficiently large that  $\mathbb{P}\{X \geq n/2\} < \frac{1}{2}$  and  $\mathbb{P}\{\alpha(G) \geq m(n)\} < \frac{1}{2}$ .

- Take  $G$  with  $X < n/2$  (less than  $n/2$  cycles of length at most  $\ell$ ) and  $\alpha(G) < m(n) \sim 3n^{1-\theta} \log n$ .

- Remove from  $G$  a vertex from each cycle of length at most  $\ell$ .

- New graph  $G^*$  has at least  $n/2$  vertices,  $\boxed{\text{girth}(G^*) > \ell}$

- $\alpha(G^*) \leq \alpha(G)$

$$\implies \chi(G^*) \geq \frac{|G^*|}{\alpha(G)} \geq \frac{n/2}{3n^{1-\theta} \log n} = \frac{n^\theta}{6 \log n}.$$

- $n$  sufficiently large that  $n^\theta / (6 \log n) > k \implies \boxed{\chi(G) > k}$ .

# Second Moment Method

Second moment  $\mathbb{E}(X^2)$

Variance  $\mathbb{V} X = \mathbb{E}(X^2) - (EX)^2 = \mathbb{E}((X - EX)^2)$

**Theorem** [Chebyshev's Inequality] Suppose that  $\mathbb{E}(X^2)$  is finite.

$$\implies \mathbb{P}\{|X - EX| \geq \lambda\sqrt{\mathbb{V} X}\} \leq \frac{1}{\lambda^2}.$$

*Proof*

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{V} X &= \mathbb{E}((X - EX)^2) \\ &\geq \mathbb{E}\left((X - EX)^2 \mathbb{I}_{\{|X - EX| \geq \kappa\}}\right) \\ &\geq \kappa^2 \mathbb{P}\{|X - EX| \geq \kappa\}.\end{aligned}$$

and use  $\kappa = \lambda \cdot \sqrt{\mathbb{V} X}$ .

# Second Moment Method

## Theorem

$X$  ... discrete random variable on **non-negative integers**

$$\implies \boxed{\mathbb{P}\{X = 0\} \leq \frac{\mathbb{V} X}{(\mathbb{E} X)^2}}.$$

*Proof* Set  $\lambda = \mathbb{E} X / \sqrt{\mathbb{V} X}$  in Chebyshev's Inequality.

Then  $\lambda \sqrt{\mathbb{V} X} = \mathbb{E} X$  and consequently

$$\mathbb{P}\{X = 0\} \leq \mathbb{P}\{|X - \mathbb{E} X| \geq \mathbb{E} X\} \leq \frac{1}{\lambda^2} = \frac{\mathbb{V} X}{(\mathbb{E} X)^2}.$$

# Second Moment Method

Remark

**Sharpened Version:**  $\mathbb{E} X = \mathbb{E} (X \cdot \mathbb{I}_{[X>0]}) \leq \sqrt{\mathbb{E} X^2} \cdot \sqrt{\mathbb{P}\{X > 0\}}.$

$$\implies \boxed{\mathbb{P}\{X > 0\} \geq \frac{(\mathbb{E} X)^2}{\mathbb{E} X^2}}.$$

$$\implies \boxed{\mathbb{P}\{X = 0\} \leq \frac{\mathbb{V} X}{\mathbb{E} X^2}}.$$

This complements the inequality  $\mathbb{P}\{X > 0\} \leq \mathbb{E} X$ :

$$\boxed{\frac{(\mathbb{E} X)^2}{\mathbb{E} X^2} \leq \mathbb{P}\{X > 0\} \leq \mathbb{E} X}$$



# Second Moment Method

## Theorem

$X_n$  ... sequence of random variables with

$$\mathbb{E} X_n \rightarrow \infty \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbb{E} (X_n)^2 \sim (\mathbb{E} X_n)^2$$

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

$$\implies \boxed{X_n > 0} \quad \text{and} \quad \boxed{\frac{X_n}{\mathbb{E} X_n} \rightarrow 1}$$

almost always.

# Second Moment Method

*Proof*

- $\mathbb{E}(X_n)^2 \sim (\mathbb{E} X_n)^2 \implies \mathbb{V} X_n = o((\mathbb{E} X_n)^2).$

- $\mathbb{P}\{|X_n - \mathbb{E} X_n| \geq \varepsilon \mathbb{E} X_n\} \leq \frac{\mathbb{V} X_n}{\varepsilon^2 (\mathbb{E} X_n)^2}$

(Take  $\lambda = \varepsilon \mathbb{E} X_n / \sqrt{\mathbb{V} X_n}$  in Chebyshev's inequality.)

$$\implies \boxed{\mathbb{P}\{|X_n - \mathbb{E} X_n| \geq \varepsilon \mathbb{E} X_n\} \rightarrow 0}.$$

**Remark.** A relation of the kind  $\mathbb{P}\{|X_n - \mathbb{E} X_n| \geq \varepsilon \mathbb{E} X_n\} \rightarrow 0$  is a so-called **concentration property** of  $X_n$ .

# Second Moment Method

## Application

$X = X_n$  ... number of **triangles** in random graph  $G(n, p)$ .

$$\mathbb{P}\{e \in E(G)\} = p \quad (\text{independently})$$

$\mathcal{T}$  ... (random) set of triangles in  $G(n, p)$ :

$$X = \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < i_3 \leq n} \mathbb{I}_{[(i_1, i_2, i_3) \in \mathcal{T}]}$$

$$\mathbb{E} X = \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < i_3 \leq n} \mathbb{P}\{(i_1, i_2, i_3) \in \mathcal{T}\} = \binom{n}{3} p^3.$$

# Second Moment Method

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}(X^2) &= \mathbb{E} \left( \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < i_3 \leq n} \sum_{1 \leq j_1 < j_2 < j_3 \leq n} \mathbb{I}[(i_1, i_2, i_3) \in \mathcal{T}] \cdot \mathbb{I}[(j_1, j_2, j_3) \in \mathcal{T}] \right) \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left( \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < i_3 \leq n} \sum_{1 \leq j_1 < j_2 < j_3 \leq n} \mathbb{I}[(i_1, i_2, i_3), (j_1, j_2, j_3) \in \mathcal{T}] \right) \\ &= \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < i_3 \leq n} \sum_{1 \leq j_1 < j_2 < j_3 \leq n} \mathbb{P}\{(i_1, i_2, i_3), (j_1, j_2, j_3) \in \mathcal{T}\}\end{aligned}$$

# Second Moment Method

1. If  $|\{i_1, i_2, i_3\} \cap \{j_1, j_2, j_3\}| = 3$ , that is,  $i_1 = j_1$ ,  $i_2 = j_2$ , and  $i_3 = j_3$  then

$$\mathbb{P}\{(i_1, i_2, i_3), (j_1, j_2, j_3) \in \mathcal{T}\} = p^3$$

and there are  $\binom{n}{3}$  cases of that kind.

2. If  $|\{i_1, i_2, i_3\} \cap \{j_1, j_2, j_3\}| = 2$  then

$$\mathbb{P}\{(i_1, i_2, i_3), (j_1, j_2, j_3) \in \mathcal{T}\} = p^5$$

and there are  $12\binom{n}{4}$  cases of that kind.

3. If  $|\{i_1, i_2, i_3\} \cap \{j_1, j_2, j_3\}| \leq 1$  then the events  $\{(i_1, j_1, k_1) \in \mathcal{T}\}$  and  $\{(i_2, j_2, k_2) \in \mathcal{T}\}$  are independent and consequently

$$\mathbb{P}\{(i_1, j_1, k_1), (i_2, j_2, k_2) \in \mathcal{T}\} = p^6.$$

# Second Moment Method

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}(X^2) &= \binom{n}{3}p^3 + 12\binom{n}{4}p^5 + \left(\binom{n}{3}^2 - \binom{n}{3} - 12\binom{n}{4}\right)p^6 \\ &= (\mathbb{E}X)^2 + \binom{n}{3}p^3(1-p^3) + 12\binom{n}{4}p^5(1-p).\end{aligned}$$

$$np \rightarrow \infty \iff \mathbb{E}X^2 \sim (\mathbb{E}X)^2$$

## Proposition

If  $np \rightarrow \infty$  then almost always the number of triangles in  $G(n, p)$  is approximated by their expected number  $\binom{n}{3}p^3$ .

# Random Graphs

**Definition** Let  $n$  be a positive integer and  $p$  a real number with  $0 \leq p \leq 1$ . The **random graph**  $G(n, p)$  is a probability space over the set of graphs on the vertex set  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  determined by

$$\mathbb{P}\{(i, j) \in G\} = p$$

for all possible (undirected) edges  $(i, j)$  with  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$  and  $i \neq j$  with these events mutually independent.

Similarly one also considers random graphs  $G(n, m)$ , where  $m$  is also a given integer with  $0 \leq m \leq \binom{n}{2}$ . Here one considers the set of all graphs on the set of vertices  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  with exactly  $m$  (undirected) edges where each of these graphs is equally likely. Due to the law of large numbers  $G(n, m)$  will have very similar properties as  $G(n, p)$  with  $p = m / \binom{n}{2}$ .

# Random Graphs

## Definition

A **martingale** is a sequence  $X_0, X_1, \dots, X_m$  of random variables with

$$\mathbb{E}(X_{i+1} | X_i, X_{i-1}, \dots, X_0) = X_i \quad (0 \leq i < m)$$

“Fair Game”



# Random Graphs

## Edge Exposure Martingale

$V = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ ,  $E = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_m\}$  with  $m = \binom{n}{2}$ .

$f$  ... graph theoretic function (e.g. chromatic number),  $G \sim G(n, p)$

$$X_0(H) := \mathbb{E} f(G)$$

$$X_1(H) := \mathbb{E} (f(G) | e_1 \in G \iff e_1 \in H)$$

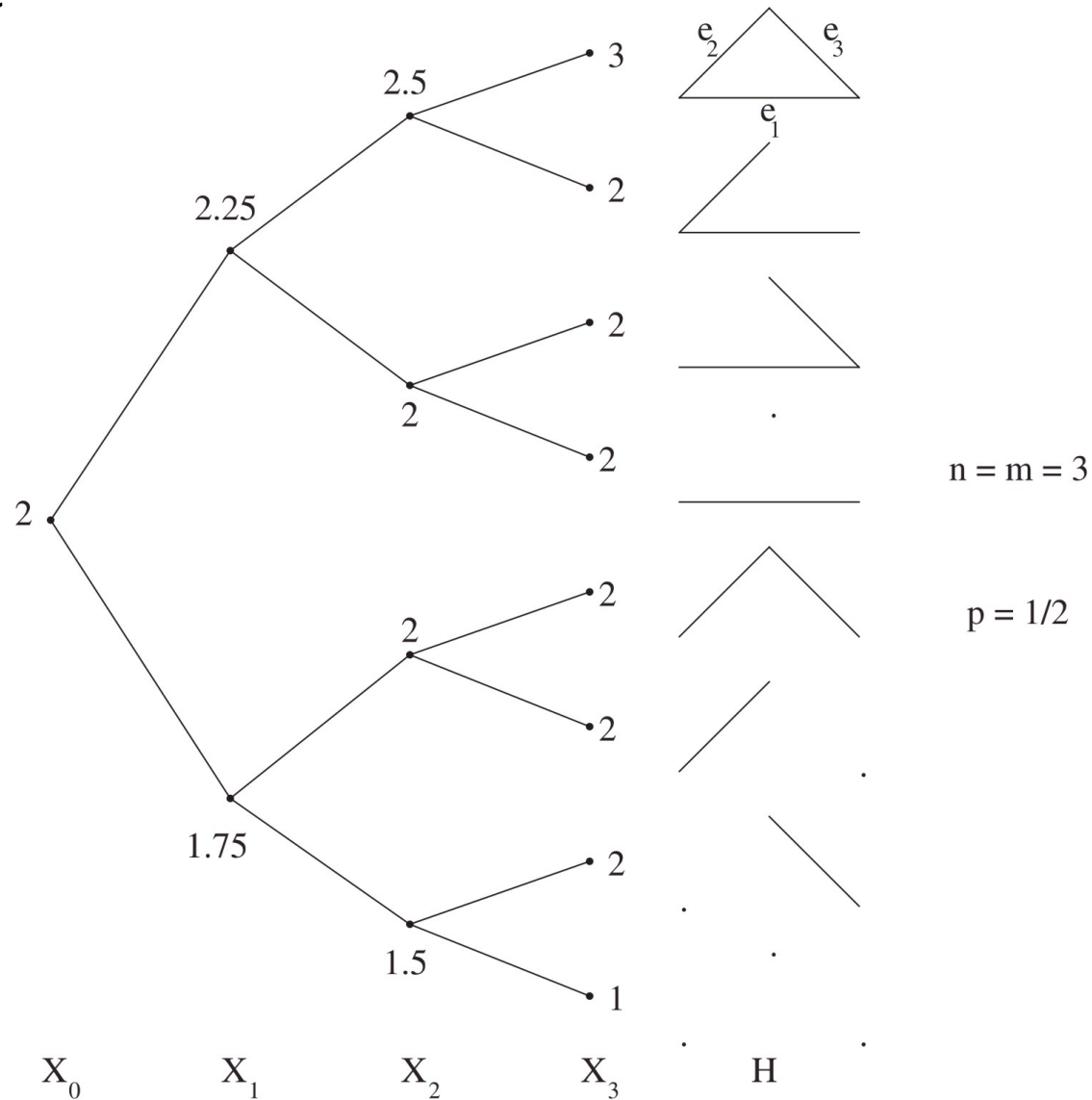
$$X_2(H) := \mathbb{E} (f(G) | e_1 \in G \iff e_1 \in H, e_2 \in G \iff e_2 \in H)$$

...

$$X_m(H) := f(H)$$

# Random Graphs

Edge exposure martingale for  
the chromatic  
number  $\chi$



# Random Graphs

## Lemma

$f$  ... graph theoretic function with the property that

- if  $H, H'$  differ in one edge then  $|f(H) - f(H')| \leq 1$ .

$X_0, X_1, \dots, X_m$  edge exposure martingale on  $G(n, p)$

$$\implies \boxed{|X_{i+1} - X_i| \leq 1}.$$

*Proof* (Idea)

Pairing  $H, H'$  that differ exactly by edge  $e_{i+1}$ .

# Random Graphs

## Theorem [Azuma's Inequality]

Suppose that  $0 = X_0, X_1, \dots, X_m$  is a martingale with  $|X_{i+1} - X_i| \leq 1$ .

$$\implies \boxed{\mathbb{P}\{X_m > \lambda\sqrt{m}\} < e^{-\frac{1}{2}\lambda^2}}.$$

*Proof*

$$x \in [-1, 1] \implies e^{\lambda x} \leq \cosh(\lambda) + x \sinh(\lambda)$$

$$Y_i := X_i - X_{i-1} \implies \mathbb{E}(Y_i | X_{i-1}, \dots, X_0) = 0.$$

$$\implies \mathbb{E}\left(e^{\alpha Y_i} | X_{i-1}, \dots, X_0\right) \leq \cosh(\alpha) + 0 \cdot \sinh(\alpha) \leq e^{\frac{1}{2}\alpha^2}$$

# Random Graphs

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}(e^{\alpha X_m}) &= \mathbb{E}\left(\prod_{i=1}^m e^{\alpha Y_i}\right) \\ &= \mathbb{E}\left(\prod_{i=1}^{m-1} e^{\alpha Y_i} \cdot \mathbb{E}\left(e^{\alpha Y_m} \mid X_{m-1}, \dots, X_0\right)\right) \\ &\leq \mathbb{E}\left(\prod_{i=1}^{m-1} e^{\alpha Y_i}\right) \cdot e^{\frac{1}{2}\alpha^2} \\ &\leq e^{\frac{1}{2}\alpha^2 m}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}\{X_m > \lambda\sqrt{m}\} &= \mathbb{P}\{e^{\alpha X_m} > e^{\alpha\lambda\sqrt{m}}\} \\ &< \mathbb{E}(e^{\alpha X_m}) \cdot e^{-\alpha\lambda\sqrt{m}} \\ &\leq e^{\frac{1}{2}\alpha^2 m - \alpha\lambda\sqrt{m}} \\ &= e^{-\frac{1}{2}\lambda^2} \quad (\alpha = \lambda/\sqrt{m})\end{aligned}$$

# Random Graphs

$k = k(n) = k_0(n) - 4$ , where  $k_0 = k_0(n)$  is defined by

$$\binom{n}{k_0 - 1} 2^{-\binom{k_0 - 1}{2}} > 1 > \binom{n}{k_0} 2^{-\binom{k_0}{2}}$$

$$k = k(n) \sim 2 \log_2 n, \quad \binom{n}{k(n)} 2^{-\binom{k(n)}{2}} > n^{3+(1)}$$

# Random Graphs

## Lemma

$Y$  ... maximal size of a family of edge disjoint cliques (= complete subgraph) of size  $k$ .

$$\implies \boxed{\mathbb{E} Y \geq \frac{n^2}{2k^4} (1 + o(1))}.$$

## *Proof*

$\mathcal{K}$  ... (random) set of  $k$ -cliques of  $G$ ,  $\mu := \mathbb{E} (|\mathcal{K}|) = \binom{n}{k} 2^{-\binom{k}{2}}$

$W$  ... (unordered) pairs  $\{A, B\}$  of  $k$ -cliques of  $G$  with  $2 \leq |A \cap B| < k$ .

$$\mathbb{E} W = \frac{\Delta}{2} \sim \frac{\mu^2 k^4}{2n^2}$$

with  $\Delta = \sum_{i=2}^{k-1} \binom{k}{i} \binom{n-k}{k-i} 2^{\binom{i}{2} - \binom{k}{2}}$ .

# Random Graphs

$$q := \mu/\Delta.$$

$\mathcal{C}$  ... random subfamily of  $\mathcal{K}$  with  $\mathbb{P}\{A \in \mathcal{C}\} = q$ .

$W'$  ... (random) number of (unordered) pairs  $\{A, B\}$ ,  $A, B \in \mathcal{C}$  with  $2 \leq |A \cap B| < k$ .

$$\mathbb{E} W' = q^2 \mathbb{E} W = q^2 \Delta/2.$$

Delete from  $\mathcal{C}$  one set from each such pair. This gives a set  $\mathcal{C}^*$  of edge disjoint  $k$ -cliques of  $G$  and

$$\mathbb{E} Y \geq \mathbb{E} (|\mathcal{C}^*|) \geq \mathbb{E} (|\mathcal{C}|) - \mathbb{E} W' = \mu q - q^2 \Delta/2 = \frac{\mu^2}{2\Delta} \sim \frac{n^2}{2k^4}.$$



# Random Graphs

## Lemma

$\omega(G)$  ... size of the maximum clique of  $G$

$$\implies \mathbb{P}\{\omega(G) < k\} < e^{-(c+o(1))\frac{n^2}{(\log n)^8}}.$$

## *Proof*

$Y_0, Y_1, \dots, Y_m$  ... edge exposure martingale on  $G(n, \frac{1}{2})$  with  $Y$  from above.

- $|Y_i - Y_{i-1}| \leq 1$  (a single edge can add at most one clique to a family of edge disjoint cliques)
- $G$  has no  $k$ -clique  $\iff Y = 0$ .

# Random Graphs

Azuma's inequality:  $m = \binom{n}{2} \sim \frac{1}{2}n^2$ ,  $\mathbb{E}Y \geq \frac{n^2}{2k^4}(1 + o(1))$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}\{\omega(G) < k\} &= \mathbb{P}\{Y = 0\} \leq \mathbb{P}\{|Y - \mathbb{E}Y| \leq \mathbb{E}Y\} \\ &\leq e^{-(\mathbb{E}Y)^2/2\binom{n}{2}} \leq e^{-(c'+o(1))n^2/k^8} \\ &= e^{-(c+o(1))\frac{n^2}{(\log n)^8}}.\end{aligned}$$

# Random Graphs

**Theorem** [Bollobas] We have, almost always in  $G(n, \frac{1}{2})$ ,

$$\chi(G) \sim \frac{n}{2 \log_2 n}.$$

*Proof* (Lower bound)

Almost always there exists no complete subgraph  $K_{\lfloor 2 \log_2 n \rfloor}$  in  $G(n, \frac{1}{2})$ .

The same holds for the complement. Consequently almost always there is no independent set of size  $\lfloor 2 \log_2 n \rfloor$ .

$$\implies \chi(G) \geq \frac{n}{\alpha(G)} \geq \frac{n}{2 \log_2 n}.$$

( $\alpha(G)$  ... independence number of  $G$ .)

# Random Graphs

*Proof* (Upper bound)

$$m = \lfloor n/(\log n)^4 \rfloor.$$

$S$  .. set of  $m$  vertices

$G|_S$  ... restriction of to  $G$  to  $S$ .  $G|_S$  has the distribution  $G(m, \frac{1}{2})$ .

$k = k(m) = k_0(m) - 4 \sim 2 \log_2$  as above.

$$\mathbb{P}\{\alpha(G|_S) < k\} < e^{-m^{2+o(1)}}.$$

( $\alpha(G)$  has the same distribution as  $\omega(G)$  for  $p = \frac{1}{2}$ .)

# Random Graphs

There are now  $\binom{n}{m} < 2^n = 2^{m^{1+o(1)}}$  such sets  $S$ . Hence

$$\mathbb{P}\{\alpha(G|_S) < k \text{ for some } m\text{-set } S\} < 2^{m^{1+o(1)}} e^{-m^{2+o(1)}} = o(1).$$

Always always *every*  $m$  vertices contain a  $k$ -element independent set.

Take  $G$  with this property.

Pull out  $k$ -element independent sets and give each a distinct color until there are less than  $m$  vertices left.

Give each remaining point a distinct color.

$$\begin{aligned} \implies \chi(G) &\leq \left\lceil \frac{n-m}{k} \right\rceil + m \leq \frac{n}{k} + m \\ &= \frac{n}{2 \log_2 n} (1 + o(1)) + o\left(\frac{n}{\log_2 n}\right) \\ &= \frac{n}{2 \log_2 n} (1 + o(1)), \end{aligned}$$

This proves the upper bound (almost always).

# Central Limit Theorem

## Definition

A random variable  $Z$  is said to be **normally distributed** (or **Gaussian**) with mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\sigma^2$  if its distribution function  $F_Z(x) = \mathbb{P}\{Z \leq x\}$  is given by

$$F_Z(x) = \Phi\left(\frac{x - \mu}{\sigma}\right),$$

where

$$\Phi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^x e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}} dt.$$

**Notation.**  $\mathcal{L}(Z) = N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ .

# Central Limit Theorem

Density of  $Z$ :

$$f_Z(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} e^{-(x-\mu)^2/(2\sigma^2)}$$

Characteristic function of  $Z$ :

$$\varphi_Z(t) = \mathbb{E} e^{itZ} = e^{i\mu t - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 t^2}.$$

# Central Limit Theorem

## Definition

*Weak convergence:*

$$X_n \xrightarrow{d} X \iff \boxed{\mathbb{E} h(X_n) \rightarrow \mathbb{E} h(X)}$$

*for all continuous and bounded  $h : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$*

Equivalently:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{X_n}(x) = F_X(x) \quad \text{for all points of continuity of } F_X(x)$$

If  $X$  is a continuous then convergence is uniform:

$$\|F_{X_n} - F_X\|_{\infty} = \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}} |F_{X_n}(x) - F_X(x)| \rightarrow 0.$$



# Central Limit Theorem

## Levy's Criterion

$$X_n \xrightarrow{d} X \iff \mathbb{E} e^{itX_n} \rightarrow \mathbb{E} e^{itX} \quad (t \in \mathbb{R})$$

Moreover, if for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\psi(t) := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E} e^{itX_n}$$

exists and  $\psi(t)$  is continuous at  $t = 0$  then  $\psi(t)$  is the characteristic function of a random variable  $X$  for which we have  $X_n \xrightarrow{d} X$ .

# Central Limit Theorem

**Notation.** “iid” ... independently and identically distributed

## Theorem

$Y_1, Y_2, \dots$  iid,  $\mathbb{E} Y_i^2 < \infty$ ,  $S_n = Y_1 + Y_2 + \dots + Y_n$

$$\implies \boxed{\tilde{S}_n := \frac{S_n - \mathbb{E} S_n}{\sqrt{\mathbb{V} S_n}} \xrightarrow{d} N(0, 1)}$$

**Remark.**  $\mathbb{P}\{S_n \leq \mathbb{E} S_n + x\sqrt{\mathbb{V} S_n}\} \rightarrow \Phi(x)$ .

*Proof*

$$\mu = \mathbb{E} Y_i, \sigma^2 = \mathbb{V} Y_i = \mathbb{E} (Y_i^2) - (\mathbb{E} Y_i)^2 \implies \mathbb{E} S_n = n\mu, \mathbb{V} S_n = n\sigma^2.$$

# Central Limit Theorem

$$\varphi_{Y_i}(t) = \mathbb{E} e^{itY_i} = e^{it\mu - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 t^2} (1 + o(1)) \quad (t \rightarrow 0)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \implies \boxed{\varphi_{\tilde{S}_n}(t)} &= \mathbb{E} e^{it\tilde{S}_n} \\ &= e^{-it\sqrt{n}\mu/\sigma} \cdot \mathbb{E} \left( e^{(it/(\sqrt{n}\sigma))(Y_1 + \dots + Y_n)} \right) \\ &= e^{-it\sqrt{n}\mu/\sigma} \cdot \left( \mathbb{E} e^{(it/(\sqrt{n}\sigma))Y_1} \right)^n \\ &= e^{-it\sqrt{n}\mu/\sigma} \cdot e^{it\sqrt{n}\mu/\sigma - \frac{1}{2}t^2} (1 + o(1)) \\ &= e^{-\frac{1}{2}t^2} (1 + o(1)) \rightarrow \boxed{e^{-\frac{1}{2}t^2}}. \end{aligned}$$

+ Levy's criterion.

# Central Limit Theorem

Quantified version for finite third moments  $\mathbb{E} |Y_i|^3$ :

$$\mathbb{P}\{S_n \leq n\mu + x\sqrt{n}\sigma\} = \Phi(x) + O\left(\frac{\mathbb{E} |Y_i - \mu|^3}{\sigma^3\sqrt{n}}\right).$$

uniformly for  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

# Stein's Method

## Lemma

$$\mathcal{L}(Z) = N(\mu, \sigma^2) \iff \mathbb{E}(Z - \mu)f(Z) = \sigma^2 \mathbb{E} f'(Z)$$

for all smooth functions  $f$

with  $f(x)e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2} \rightarrow 0$  as  $|x| \rightarrow \infty$

and  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |xf(x)|e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2} dx < \infty$ .

# Stein's Method

*Proof*

Wlog  $\mu = 0$  and  $\sigma^2 = 1$ .

$\mathcal{L}(Z) = N(0, 1)$

$$\begin{aligned}\implies \mathbb{E} f'(Z) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f'(x) e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2} dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} f(x) e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2} \Big|_{-\infty}^{\infty} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x) e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2} dx \\ &= 0 + \mathbb{E} Z f(Z).\end{aligned}$$

# Stein's Method

$$\mathbb{E} Z f(Z) = \mathbb{E} f'(Z)$$

$$g(x) \text{ bounded with } \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x) e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2} dx = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \implies f(x) &:= e^{\frac{1}{2}x^2} \int_{-\infty}^x g(y) e^{-\frac{1}{2}y^2} dy \\ &= -e^{\frac{1}{2}x^2} \int_x^{\infty} g(y) e^{-\frac{1}{2}y^2} dy \end{aligned}$$

satisfies

$$\boxed{f'(x) - x f(x) = g(x)},$$

$$f(x) e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } |x| \rightarrow \infty \text{ and } \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |x f(x)| e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2} dx < \infty.$$

# Stein's Method

$$g(x) := \mathbb{I}_{[x \leq x_0]} - \Phi(x_0)$$

$$f(x) := e^{\frac{1}{2}x^2} \int_{-\infty}^x \left( \mathbb{I}_{[x \leq x_0]} - \Phi(x_0) \right) e^{-\frac{1}{2}y^2} dy$$

$$f'(x) - xf(x) = \mathbb{I}_{[x \leq x_0]} - \Phi(x_0)$$

$$\mathbb{E} f'(Z) - \mathbb{E} Z f(Z) = \mathbb{P}\{Z \leq x_0\} - \Phi(x_0)$$

$$\implies 0 = \mathbb{P}\{Z \leq x_0\} - \Phi(x_0)$$

$$\implies \mathcal{L}(Z) = N(0, 1).$$



# Stein's Method

**Notation.**  $h$  bounded, absolutely integrable:

$$Nh = \mathbb{E} h(Z/\sigma) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(x/\sigma) e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2} dx.$$

**Lemma**  $h$  ... bounded with bounded first derivative.

Then there exists  $f$  with bounded second derivative with

$$\boxed{\sigma^2 f'(w) - wf(w) = h(w/\sigma) - Nh} \quad (\text{Stein's equation})$$

and

$$\boxed{\|f''\|_{\infty} \leq K_{\text{univ}} \cdot (\|h\|_{\infty} + \|h'\|_{\infty})}$$

for a universal constant  $K_{\text{univ}} > 0$ .

# Stein's Method

*Proof*

The solution of Stein's equation has been already determined (see the previous lemma).

$$f(x) = e^{\frac{1}{2}x^2} \int_{-\infty}^x (h(y/\sigma) - Nh) e^{-\frac{1}{2}y^2} dy.$$

Wlog  $\sigma^2 = 1$

$$\bar{h}(x) := h(x) - Nh. \quad (\implies N\bar{h} = 0, \|\bar{h}\|_{\infty} \leq 2\|h\|.)$$

# Stein's Method

Abbreviations:

$$H_0 = \|\bar{h}\|_\infty,$$

$$H_1 = \|\bar{h}'\|_\infty = \|h'\|_\infty$$

$$F_0 = \|f\|_\infty, \quad F_1 \|f'\|_\infty,$$

$$F_{11} = \|(xf)'\|_\infty,$$

$$F_2 = \|f''\|_\infty,$$

$$c_1 = \sup_{x \geq 0} \left| x \left( 1 - x e^{\frac{1}{2}x^2} \int_x^\infty e^{-\frac{1}{2}u^2} du \right) \right|,$$

$$c_2 = \sup_{x \geq 0} e^{\frac{1}{2}x^2} \int_x^\infty e^{-\frac{1}{2}u^2} du,$$

$$c_3 = \sup_{x \geq 0} x e^{\frac{1}{2}x^2} \int_x^\infty e^{-\frac{1}{2}u^2} du = 1$$

# Stein's Method

1.  $F_0 \leq c_2 H_0,$

2.  $F_1 \leq 2H_0,$

3.  $F_{11} \leq (c_1 + c_2)H_0 + H_1,$

4.  $F_2 \leq (c_1 + c_2)H_0 + 2H_1.$

4. implies upper bound for  $\|f''\|_\infty$  and proves the lemma.

# Stein's Method

1.

$$f(x) = -e^{\frac{1}{2}x^2} \int_x^\infty (\bar{h}(y)) e^{-\frac{1}{2}y^2} dy \quad (x > 0)$$
$$\implies F_0 \leq c_2 H_0.$$

Recall:  $c_2 = \sup_{x \geq 0} e^{\frac{1}{2}x^2} \int_x^\infty e^{-\frac{1}{2}u^2} du$

# Stein's Method

2.

$$f'(x) = xf(x) + \bar{h}(x) \implies F_1 \leq \|xf(x)\|_\infty + H_0.$$

$$xf(x) = -xe^{\frac{1}{2}x^2} \int_x^\infty (\bar{h}(y)) e^{-\frac{1}{2}y^2} dy \quad (x > 0)$$

$$\implies \|xf(x)\|_\infty \leq c_3 H_0 = H_0.$$

$$\implies F_1 \leq 2H_0$$

# Stein's Method

3.

$$(xf(x))' = f(x) + x^2 f(x) + x\bar{h}(x), \quad F_0 \leq c_2 H_0.$$

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 f(x) + x\bar{h}(x) &= -x^2 e^{\frac{1}{2}x^2} \int_x^\infty \bar{h}(y) e^{-\frac{1}{2}y^2} dy + x\bar{h}(x) \\ &= -x^2 e^{\frac{1}{2}x^2} \int_x^\infty \bar{h}(y) e^{-\frac{1}{2}y^2} dy + x e^{\frac{1}{2}x^2} \int_x^\infty y \bar{h}(y) e^{-\frac{1}{2}y^2} dy \\ &\quad - x e^{\frac{1}{2}x^2} \int_x^\infty y \bar{h}(y) e^{-\frac{1}{2}y^2} dy + x h(x) \\ &= x^2 e^{\frac{1}{2}x^2} \int_x^\infty \bar{h}(y) \left( \frac{y}{x} - 1 \right) e^{-\frac{1}{2}y^2} dy \\ &\quad - x e^{\frac{1}{2}x^2} \int_x^\infty \bar{h}'(y) e^{-\frac{1}{2}y^2} dy. \end{aligned}$$

$$\implies \|x^2 f(x) + x\bar{h}(x)\|_\infty \leq c_1 H_0 + H_1$$

$$\implies F_{11} \leq (c_1 + c_2) H_0 + H_1.$$

# Stein's Method

4.

$$f'(x) = \bar{h}(x) + xf(x).$$

$$\begin{aligned} |f'(x+t) - f'(x)| &= |\bar{h}(x+t) - \bar{h}(x) + (x+t)f(x+t) - xf(x)| \\ &\leq |t|H_1 + |t|F_{11} \\ &\leq |t|((c_1 + c_2)H_0 + 2H_1). \end{aligned}$$

$$\implies F_2 \leq (c_1 + c_2)H_0 + 2H_1.$$



# Stein's Method

**Norm**  $\|h\|$

$$\|h\| := K_{\text{univ}} \cdot (\|h\|_{\infty} + \|h'\|_{\infty}).$$

This norm is maybe a little unusual but it perfectly fits to Stein's method.

**Distance** of two probability measures  $P$  and  $Q$

$$d_1(P, Q) := \sup_{\|h\| \leq 1} |\mathbb{E} h(X) - \mathbb{E} h(Y)|$$

where  $\mathcal{L}(X) = P$  and  $\mathcal{L}(Y) = Q$ .

**Remark**

$$d_1(\mathcal{L}(X_n), \mathcal{L}(X)) \rightarrow 0 \quad \iff \quad X_n \xrightarrow{d} X$$

# Stein's Method

## General situation

$W$  can be composed in the following way

( $I$  ... finite index set,  $K_i$  ... finite index set ( $i \in I$ )

$X_i, W_i, Z_i, Z_{ik}, W_{ik}, V_{ik}$  square integrable,  $i \in I$  and  $k \in K_i$ ):

1. 
$$W = \sum_{i \in I} X_i, \quad 2. \mathbb{E} X_i = 0 \quad (i \in I), \quad 3. \mathbb{V} W = 1,$$

4. 
$$W = Z_i + W_i \quad (i \in I), \quad W_i \text{ is independent of } X_i,$$

5. 
$$Z_i = \sum_{k \in K_i} Z_{ik} \quad (i \in I),$$

6. 
$$W_i = W_{ik} + V_{ik} \quad (i \in I, k \in K_i),$$

7.  $W_{ik}$  is independent of the pair  $(X_i, Z_{ik}) \quad (i \in I, k \in K_i).$

# Stein's Method

## Theorem

Suppose that a random variable  $W$  decomposes as introduced above. Then

$$d_1(\mathcal{L}(W), N(0, 1)) \leq \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \in I} \mathbb{E} \left( |X_i| Z_i^2 \right) + \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{k \in K_i} \left( \mathbb{E} |X_i Z_{ik} V_{ik}| + \mathbb{E} |X_i Z_{ik}| \cdot \mathbb{E} |Z_i + V_{ik}| \right).$$

**Remark.** If the right hand side goes to 0 then  $W \xrightarrow{d} N(0, 1)$ .

# Stein's Method

$$Y_1, Y_2, \dots \text{ iid, } \mathbb{E} |Y_i|^3 < \infty$$

$$\mu = \mathbb{E} Y_i, \quad \sigma^2 = \mathbb{V} Y_i$$

$$X_i := \frac{Y_i - \mu}{\sqrt{n} \sigma} \quad (\text{also iid})$$

$$W := X_1 + \dots + X_n$$

$$\implies \boxed{W = \frac{Y_1 + \dots + Y_n - \mu n}{\sqrt{n} \sigma}}$$

# Stein's Method

$$K_i = \{i\}$$

$$Z_i = X_i,$$

$$W_{ik} = X_k,$$

$$V_{ik} = 0.$$

$$\mathbb{E} (|X_i|Z_i^2) = \mathbb{E} |X_i|^3,$$

$$\mathbb{E} |X_i Z_{ik} V_{ik}| = 0,$$

$$\mathbb{E} |X_i Z_{ik}| \cdot \mathbb{E} |Z_i + V_{ik}| = \mathbb{E} X_i^2 \cdot \mathbb{E} |X_i| = \frac{1}{n} \mathbb{E} |X_i|.$$

$$\implies d_1 (\mathcal{L}(W), N(0, 1)) \leq \frac{1}{\sigma^3 \sqrt{n}} \left( \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{E} (|Y_i - \mu|^3) + \mathbb{E} |Y_i - \mu| \right).$$

# Stein's Method

*Proof*

Goal:

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \mathbb{E} W f(W) - \mathbb{E} f'(W) \right| \\ & \leq \|f''\|_\infty \cdot \left( \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \in I} \mathbb{E} (|X_i| Z_i^2) \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{k \in K_i} \left( \mathbb{E} |X_i Z_{ik} V_{ik}| + \mathbb{E} |X_i Z_{ik}| \cdot \mathbb{E} |Z_i + V_{ik}| \right) \right). \end{aligned}$$

# Stein's Method

Choose  $h$  with  $\|h\| \leq 1$  and use  $f(x)$  with

$$f'(x) - xf(x) = h(x) - Nh = \bar{h}(x)$$

(Recall:  $Nh = \mathbb{E} h(Z)$  with  $\mathcal{L}(Z) = N(0, 1)$ ).

$$\begin{aligned} \implies \mathbb{E} h(W) - \mathbb{E} h(Z) &= \mathbb{E} f'(W) - \mathbb{E} W f(W) \\ \implies |\mathbb{E} h(W) - \mathbb{E} h(Z)| &= |\mathbb{E} f'(W) - \mathbb{E} W f(W)| \\ &\leq \|f''\|_\infty \cdot \left( \dots \right) \\ &\leq \left( \dots \right) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $h$  with  $\|h\| \leq 1$ . (Recall that  $\|f''\|_\infty \leq \|h\| \leq 1$ .)

# Stein's Method

Rewrite the difference:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E} W f(W) - \mathbb{E} f'(W) &= \mathbb{E} W f(W) - \sum_{i \in I} \mathbb{E} (X_i Z_i f'(W_i)) \\ &+ \sum_{i \in I} \mathbb{E} (X_i Z_i f'(W_i)) - \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{k \in K_i} \mathbb{E} (X_i Z_{ik}) \mathbb{E} f'(W_{ik}) \\ &+ \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{k \in K_i} \mathbb{E} (X_i Z_{ik}) \left( \mathbb{E} f'(W_{ik}) - \mathbb{E} f'(W) \right),\end{aligned}$$

Here we used

$$\begin{aligned}1 = \mathbb{E} W^2 &= \sum_{i \in I} \mathbb{E} (X_i W) \\ &= \sum_{i \in I} \mathbb{E} (X_i) \mathbb{E} (W_i) + \sum_{i \in I} \mathbb{E} (X_i Z_i) \\ &= \sum_{i \in I} \mathbb{E} (X_i Z_i) \\ &= \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{k \in K_i} \mathbb{E} (X_i Z_{ik}).\end{aligned}$$



# Stein's Method

First by Taylor's expansion:

$$f(x + t) = f(x) + tf'(x) + \frac{1}{2}t^2 f''(x + \theta t) \text{ for some } \theta \in [0, 1].$$

$$\begin{aligned} Wf(W) &= \sum_{i \in I} X_i f(W) \\ &= \sum_{i \in I} X_i \left( f(W_i) + Z_i f'(W_i) + \frac{1}{2} Z_i^2 f''(W_i + \theta_i Z_i) \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$X_i \text{ and } W_i \text{ are independent} \implies \mathbb{E}(X_i f(W_i)) = \mathbb{E} X_i \cdot \mathbb{E} f(W_i)$$

$$\implies \left| \mathbb{E} Wf(W) - \sum_{i \in I} \mathbb{E}(X_i Z_i f'(W_i)) \right| \leq \frac{\|f''\|}{2} \cdot \sum_{i \in I} \mathbb{E}(|X_i| Z_i^2).$$

# Stein's Method

Second:

$$\begin{aligned} X_i Z_i f'(W_i) &= \sum_{k \in K_i} X_i Z_{ik} f'(W_i) \\ &= \sum_{k \in K_i} X_i Z_{ik} \left( f'(W_{ik} + V_{ik}) f''(W_{ik} + \theta_{ik} V_{ik}) \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \left| \sum_{i \in I} \mathbb{E} (X_i Z_i f'(W_i)) - \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{k \in K_i} \mathbb{E} (X_i Z_{ik}) \mathbb{E} f'(W_{ik}) \right| \\ \leq \|f''\| \cdot \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{k \in K_i} \mathbb{E} |X_i Z_{ik} V_{ik}| \end{aligned}$$

# Stein's Method

Third:

$$W_{ik} = W_i - V_{ik} = W - Z_i - V_{ik}:$$

$$f'(W_{ik}) = f'(W) - (Z_i + V_{ik})f''(W - \theta(Z_i + V_{ik}))$$

$$\implies \left| \mathbb{E} f'(W_{ik}) - \mathbb{E} f'(W) \right| \leq \|f''\| \cdot \mathbb{E} |(Z_i + V_{ik})|.$$

Putting the three estimates together we get the proposed estimate for  $|\mathbb{E} W f(W) - \mathbb{E} f'(W)|$ .

# Stein's Method

**Simplified Version** (*dissociated* composition:  $Z_{ik} = X_k, i \in K_i \subseteq I$ )

... more precisely:

1. 
$$W = \sum_{i \in I} X_i, \quad 2. \mathbb{E} X_i = 0 \quad (i \in I), \quad 3. \mathbb{V} W = 1,$$

4. 
$$W = Z_i + W_i \quad (i \in I), \quad W_i \text{ is independent of } X_i,$$

5. 
$$Z_i = \sum_{k \in K_i} X_k, \quad W_i = \sum_{k \in I \setminus K_i} X_k \quad (i \in I),$$

6. 
$$W_i = W_{ik} + V_{ik} \quad V_{ik} = \sum_{j \in K_k \setminus K_i} X_j \quad (i \in I, k \in K_i),$$

7. 
$$W_{ik} = W - \sum_{j \in K_i \cup K_k} X_j \text{ is independent of } (X_i, X_k) \quad (i \in I, k \in K_i).$$

# Stein's Method

## Dependency Graph $\mathcal{L}$

$I$  ... vertices,  $X_i$  random variable ( $i \in I$ )

- If  $A, B$  are disjoint subsets of  $I$  that are not interconnected by an edge then two subsystems  $(X_i : i \in A)$  and  $(X_j : j \in B)$  are independent.

## Application to Stein's Theorem

$$K_i := \{\text{neighbors of } i \text{ in } \mathcal{L}\}$$

$$W_i = \sum_{k \in I \setminus K_i} X_k \implies X_i, W_i \text{ ind.}$$

$$W_{ik} = \sum_{j \in I \setminus (K_i \cup K_k)} X_j \implies (X_i, X_k), W_{ik} \text{ ind.}$$

# Stein's Method

## Theorem

Suppose that a random variable  $W$  decomposes in a dissociated way that is induced by a dependency graph.

Then

$$d_1(\mathcal{L}(W), N(0, 1)) \leq 2 \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j, k \in K_i} \left( \mathbb{E}(|X_i X_j X_k|) + \mathbb{E}(|X_i X_j|) \mathbb{E}|X_k| \right).$$

# Stein's Method

*Proof*

$$Z_i = \sum_{k \in K_i} X_k$$

$$\implies |X_i| Z_i^2 = |X_i| \sum_{j, k \in K_i} X_j X_k \leq \sum_{j, k \in K_i} |X_i X_j X_k|$$

$$\implies \sum_{i \in I} \mathbb{E} (|X_i| Z_i^2) \leq \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j, k \in K_i} \mathbb{E} (|X_i X_j X_k|).$$

# Stein's Method

$$Z_{ik} = X_k$$

$$V_{ik} = \sum_{j \in K_k \setminus K_i} X_j$$

$$\implies |X_i Z_{ik} V_{ik}| \leq \sum_{j \in K_k} |X_i X_k X_j|$$

$$\begin{aligned} \implies \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{k \in K_i} \mathbb{E} |X_i Z_{ik} V_{ik}| &\leq \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{k \in K_i} \sum_{j \in K_k} \mathbb{E} |X_i X_k X_j| \\ &= \sum_{k \in I} \sum_{i \in K_k} \sum_{j \in K_k} \mathbb{E} |X_i X_k X_j| \\ &= \sum_{k \in I} \sum_{i, j \in K_k} \mathbb{E} |X_i X_k X_j|. \end{aligned}$$



# Stein's Method

$$Z_{ik} = X_k$$

$$Z_i + V_{ik} = \sum_{j \in K_k \cup K_i} X_j$$

$$\implies \mathbb{E} |X_i Z_{ik}| \cdot \mathbb{E} |Z_i + V_{ik}| \leq \sum_{j \in K_k} \mathbb{E} |X_i X_k| \cdot \mathbb{E} |X_j| + \sum_{j \in K_i} \mathbb{E} |X_i X_k| \cdot \mathbb{E} |X_j|$$

$$\begin{aligned} \implies & \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{k \in K_i} \mathbb{E} |X_i Z_{ik}| \cdot \mathbb{E} |Z_i + V_{ik}| \\ & \leq \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{k \in K_i} \sum_{j \in K_k} \mathbb{E} |X_i X_k| \cdot \mathbb{E} |X_j| + \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{k \in K_i} \sum_{j \in K_i} \mathbb{E} |X_i X_k| \cdot \mathbb{E} |X_j| \\ & = 2 \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j, k \in K_i} \mathbb{E} (|X_i X_j|) \mathbb{E} |X_k| \end{aligned}$$

# Stein's Method

$$\begin{aligned} \implies & \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \in I} \mathbb{E} (|X_i| Z_i^2) + \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{k \in K_i} \left( \mathbb{E} |X_i Z_{ik} V_{ik}| + \mathbb{E} |X_i Z_{ik}| \cdot \mathbb{E} |Z_i + V_{ik}| \right) \\ & \leq 2 \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j, k \in K_i} \left( \mathbb{E} (|X_i X_j X_k|) + \mathbb{E} (|X_i X_j|) \mathbb{E} |X_k| \right), \end{aligned}$$

# Application to Random Graphs

$G(n, p)$  ... random graph

$\mathcal{T}$  ... triangles in  $G(n, p)$

$I = \{i = (i_1, i_2, i_3) : 1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < i_3 \leq n\}$

$$X = |\mathcal{T}| = \sum_{i \in I} \mathbb{I}_{[i=(i_1, i_2, i_3) \in \mathcal{T}]}$$

number of triangles in  $G(n, p)$

$$\mathbb{E} X = \binom{n}{3} p^3$$

$$\sigma^2 := \mathbb{V} X = \binom{n}{3} p^3 (1 - p^3) + 12 \binom{n}{4} p^5 (1 - p).$$

*Simplification:*  $p \leq \frac{1}{2}, np \rightarrow \infty \implies \mathbb{E} X \rightarrow \infty, \mathbb{V} X \rightarrow \infty$

# Application to Random Graphs

$$X_i := \frac{1}{\sigma} \left( \mathbb{I}_{[i=(i_1, i_2, i_3) \in \mathcal{T}] - p^3} \right)$$

$$W = \sum_{i \in I} X_i = \frac{X - \mathbb{E} X}{\sqrt{\mathbb{V} X}}.$$

*Dependency graph  $\mathcal{L}$ .*

$$V(\mathcal{L}) = I$$

$$E(\mathcal{L}) = \{(i, j) : |\{i_1, i_2, i_3\} \cap \{j_1, j_2, j_3\}| \geq 2\}$$

$$K_i = \{k = (k_1, k_2, k_3) \in I : |\{i_1, i_2, i_3\} \cap \{k_1, k_2, k_3\}| \geq 2\}.$$

# Application to Random Graphs

$$\sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j, k \in K_i} \left( \mathbb{E} (|X_i X_j X_k|) + \mathbb{E} (|X_i X_j|) \mathbb{E} |X_k| \right) = ???$$

(Recall:  $X_i := \frac{1}{\sigma} \left( \mathbb{I}_{[i=(i_1, i_2, i_3) \in T]} - p^3 \right)$ )

- $i = j = k$ :

$$\mathbb{E} (|X_i X_j X_k|) = \mathbb{E} (|X_i|^3) = \frac{1}{\sigma^3} \left( p^3 (1 - p^3)^3 + (1 - p^3) p^9 \right) \leq \frac{2p^3}{\sigma^3}$$

- other case are similar ...

# Application to Random Graphs

$$\implies \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j, k \in K_i} \left( \mathbb{E} (|X_i X_j X_k|) + \mathbb{E} (|X_i X_j|) \mathbb{E} |X_k| \right) = O \left( \frac{1}{\sigma^3} (n^3 p^3 (1 + np^2)^2) \right)$$

$$\mathbb{V} X = \sigma^2 \geq c n^3 p^3 (1 + np^2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \implies d_1 (\mathcal{L}(W), N(0, 1)) &= O \left( \frac{n^3 p^3 (1 + np^2)^2}{n^{9/2} p^{9/2} ((1 + np^2)^{3/2})} \right) \\ &= O \left( (np)^{-3/2} (1 + np)^{1/2} \right) \\ &\rightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

# Application to Random Graphs

## Theorem

Suppose that  $0 < p \leq \frac{1}{2}$  and  $np \rightarrow \infty$ .

Then the number of triangles in a random graph  $G(n, p)$  satisfies a central limit theorem.

**Remark.** Similar properties hold for general subgraph counting.