

# Topics on Computing and Mathematical Sciences I Graph Theory (9) Extremal Graph Theory I

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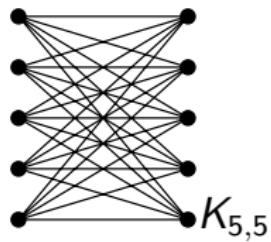
# Today's contents

- ① Complete multipartite graphs, Turán graphs
- ② Turán's theorem
- ③ Turán-type problems and Erdős-Simonovits-Stone theorem
- ④ Open problems

## Mantel's theorem (recap)

Theorem 2.7 (Extremality for having no  $K_3$ , Mantel 1907)

The maximum number of edges in an  $n$ -vertex graph that contains no  $K_3$  is  $\lfloor n^2/4 \rfloor$



Promised to answer...

There, we consider graphs containing no  $K_3$

### Questions

- What about graphs containing no  $K_4$
- What about graphs containing no  $K_r$  ( $r$  fixed)
- What about graphs containing no  $K_{r,r}$
- What about graphs containing no Petersen graph
- ...

We will answer these questions (completely or partially) in today's class

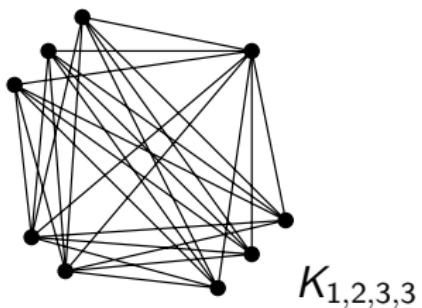
# Complete multipartite graphs

$G = (V, E)$  a graph;  $r$  a natural number

Definition (Complete  $r$ -partite graph)

$G$  is **complete  $r$ -partite** if  $\exists$  a partition  $V_1 \cup \dots \cup V_r$  of  $V$  s.t.

$\{u, v\} \in E \Leftrightarrow \{u, v\} \not\subseteq V_i$  for any  $i$ ; Denoted by  $K_{n_1, \dots, n_r}$  if  $|V_i| = n_i$



Remark

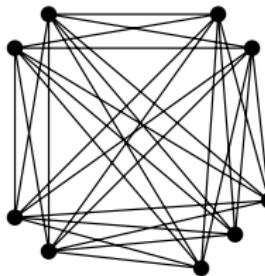
$G$   $r$ -partite  $\Rightarrow G$  contains no  $K_{r+1}$

# Turán graphs

$n, r$  natural numbers

## Definition (Turán graph)

A **Turán graph**  $T_{n,r}$  is an  $n$ -vertex complete  $r$ -partite graph with the sizes of its partite sets as equal as possible (the partite sets have  $\lceil n/r \rceil$  or  $\lfloor n/r \rfloor$  vertices)



$$T_{9,4} \simeq K_{2,2,2,3}$$

## Intuition (?)

$T_{n,r}$  maximizes # edges among all graphs containing no  $K_{r+1}$  (?)

# Turán graphs are extremal among the $r$ -partite graphs

$n, r$  natural numbers

## Lemma 9.1 (Extremality for $r$ -partiteness)

The Turán graph  $T_{n,r}$  is a unique  $n$ -vertex  $r$ -partite graph that has a maximum number of edges

Proof idea.

Let  $G$  be an  $n$ -vtx  $r$ -partite graph that has a max # of edges

- $G$  must be complete  $r$ -partite;  $G \simeq K_{n_1, \dots, n_r}$
- $e(G) = \binom{n}{2} - \sum_{i=1}^r \binom{n_i}{2}$  and this is maximized when  $n_1, \dots, n_r$  are as equal as possible

□

# Today's contents

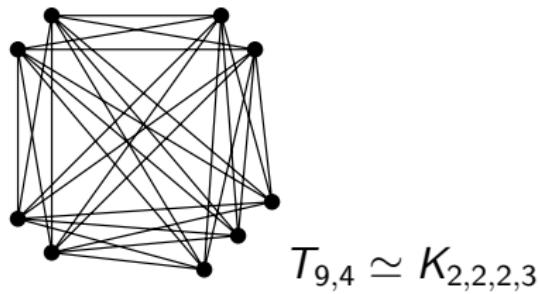
- ① Complete multipartite graphs, Turán graphs
- ② Turán's theorem
- ③ Turán-type problems and Erdős-Simonovits-Stone theorem
- ④ Open problems

# Turán's theorem

$n, r$  natural numbers

Theorem 9.2 (Extremality for having no  $K_r$ ; Turán '41)

The maximum number of edges in an  $n$ -vertex graph that contains no  $K_{r+1}$  is  $e(T_{n,r})$



Easy to see: this max #  $\geq e(T_{n,r})$

# Proof of Turán's theorem

Proof idea.

Induction on  $r$ ; Easy when  $r = 1$  so suppose  $r \geq 2$

- Let  $G = (V, E)$  be an  $n$ -vertex graph that contains no  $K_{r+1}$  and has a maximum number of edges
- $v \in V$  a vertex of max degree ( $d_G(v) = \Delta(G)$ )
- Count the edges in  $G[N(v)]$ , this is at most  $e(T_{\Delta(G), r-1})$  (why?)
- Count the remaining edges, this is at most  $\Delta(G)(n - \Delta(G))$
- $\therefore e(G) \leq e(T_{\Delta(G), r-1}) + \Delta(G)(n - \Delta(G))$
- On the other hand,  $\exists$  an  $n$ -vertex complete  $r$ -partite graph with  $e(T_{\Delta(G), r-1}) + \Delta(G)(n - \Delta(G))$  edges
- By Lem 9.1,  $e(T_{\Delta(G), r-1}) + \Delta(G)(n - \Delta(G)) \leq e(T_{n,r})$  □

# Today's contents

- ① Complete multipartite graphs, Turán graphs
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# The Turán-type problem

## Question (Turán-type problem)

Given a natural number  $n$  and a graph  $H$ ,

What is the maximum number of edges in an  $n$ -vertex graph that contains no  $H$ ?

## Notation

$$\text{ex}(n, H) = \max\{e(G) \mid n(G) = n, G \not\supseteq H\}$$

We saw...

- $\text{ex}(n, K_3) = \lfloor n^2/4 \rfloor$  (Mantel)
- $\text{ex}(n, K_{r+1}) = e(T_{n,r})$  (Turán)

For other graphs??

## Erdős-Simonovits-Stone theorem

A complete answer for the Turán-type problems

Theorem 9.3 (Erdős, Simonovits '66; Erdős-Simonovits-Stone thm)

$\forall$  graph  $H$

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

In other words,

$$\text{ex}(n, H) = \left(1 - \frac{1}{\chi(H) - 1}\right) \binom{n}{2} + o(n^2)$$

The chromatic number answers the Turán-type problem

# Proof outline of Erdős-Simonovits-Stone theorem

## Proof outline I

- ① Deduce the Erdős-Simonovits-Stone thm from the Erdős-Stone thm (in the next slide)
- ② Deduce the Erdős-Stone thm from its weaker version
- ③ Prove the weaker version of Erdős-Stone thm

## Proof outline II

- ① Deduce the Erdős-Simonovits-Stone thm from the Erdős-Stone thm (in the next slide)
- ② Use Szemerédi's regularity lemma to prove the embedding lemma (next lecture)
- ③ Use the embedding lemma to prove Erdős-Stone thm

## Erdős-Stone theorem

Theorem 9.4 (Erdős, Stone '46)

$\forall s \geq 1, r \geq 2$  natural numbers

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\text{ex}(n, T_{rs,r})}{\binom{n}{2}} = 1 - \frac{1}{r-1}$$

Consequence of Erdős-Stone thm

$$\text{ex}(n, H) \approx \left(1 - \frac{1}{r-1}\right) \binom{n}{2} \approx \text{ex}(n, T_{rs,r}) \text{ where } r = \chi(H)$$

## Deducing Erdős-Simonovits-Stone from Erdős-Stone

Proof idea of Thm 9.3 using Thm 9.4

Squeeze theorem from Calculus; Let  $r = \chi(H)$ 

- $\exists t \in \mathbb{N}: \text{ex}(n, H) \leq \text{ex}(n, T_{rt,r}) \quad (\because H \subseteq T_{rn(H),r})$
- $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\text{ex}(n, T_{rt,r})}{\binom{n}{2}} = 1 - \frac{1}{r-1} \quad (\text{Thm 9.4})$
- $e(T_{n,r-1}) \leq \text{ex}(n, H) \quad (\because \chi(T_{n,r-1}) < \chi(H) \text{ (so } H \not\subseteq T_{n,r-1}))$
- $\therefore$  Remains to show  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e(T_{n,r-1})}{\binom{n}{2}} = 1 - \frac{1}{r-1}$

## Some calculation to finish the proof (1/2)

$$e(T_{n,r-1}) \leq \binom{n}{2} - (r-1) \binom{\lfloor n/(r-1) \rfloor}{2}$$

## Some calculation to finish the proof (1/2)

$$\begin{aligned} e(T_{n,r-1}) &\leq \binom{n}{2} - (r-1) \binom{\lfloor n/(r-1) \rfloor}{2} \\ &= \binom{n}{2} - (r-1) \frac{1}{2} \left\lfloor \frac{n}{r-1} \right\rfloor \left( \left\lfloor \frac{n}{r-1} \right\rfloor - 1 \right) \end{aligned}$$

## Some calculation to finish the proof (1/2)

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## Some calculation to finish the proof (1/2)

$$\begin{aligned}
 e(T_{n,r-1}) &\leq \binom{n}{2} - (r-1) \binom{\lfloor n/(r-1) \rfloor}{2} \\
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 &\leq \binom{n}{2} - \frac{r-1}{2} \left( \frac{n}{r-1} - 1 \right) \left( \frac{n}{r-1} - 2 \right) \\
 &= \binom{n}{2} - \frac{r-1}{2} \left( \frac{n^2}{(r-1)^2} - \frac{3n}{r-1} + 2 \right) \\
 &= \binom{n}{2} - \frac{n^2}{2(r-1)} - \frac{3n}{2} + (r-1)
 \end{aligned}$$

## Some calculation to finish the proof (1/2)

$$\begin{aligned}
 e(T_{n,r-1}) &\leq \binom{n}{2} - (r-1) \binom{\lfloor n/(r-1) \rfloor}{2} \\
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 &\leq \binom{n}{2} - \frac{r-1}{2} \left( \frac{n}{r-1} - 1 \right) \left( \frac{n}{r-1} - 2 \right) \\
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 &= \binom{n}{2} - \frac{n^2}{2(r-1)} - \frac{3n}{2} + (r-1)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\text{ex}(T_{n,r-1})}{\binom{n}{2}} \leq 1 - \frac{1}{r-1}$$

## Some calculation to finish the proof (2/2)

$$e(T_{n,r-1}) \geq \binom{n}{2} - (r-1) \binom{\lceil n/(r-1) \rceil}{2}$$

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## Some calculation to finish the proof (2/2)

$$\begin{aligned}
 e(T_{n,r-1}) &\geq \binom{n}{2} - (r-1) \binom{\lceil n/(r-1) \rceil}{2} \\
 &= \binom{n}{2} - (r-1) \frac{1}{2} \left\lceil \frac{n}{r-1} \right\rceil \left( \left\lceil \frac{n}{r-1} \right\rceil - 1 \right) \\
 &\geq \binom{n}{2} - \frac{r-1}{2} \frac{n}{r-1} \left( \frac{n}{r-1} - 1 \right) \\
 &= \binom{n}{2} - \frac{n^2}{2(r-1)} + \frac{n}{2}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\text{ex}(T_{n,r-1})}{\binom{n}{2}} \geq 1 - \frac{1}{r-1}$$

□

# Proof outline of Erdős-Simonovits-Stone theorem

## Proof outline I

- ① Deduce the Erdős-Simonovits-Stone thm from the Erdős-Stone thm
- ② Deduce the Erdős-Stone thm from its weaker version
- ③ Prove the weaker version of Erdős-Stone thm

## Proof outline II

- ① Deduce the Erdős-Simonovits-Stone thm from the Erdős-Stone thm
- ② Use Szemerédi's regularity lemma to prove the embedding lemma (next lecture)
- ③ Use the embedding lemma to prove Erdős-Stone thm

## Erdős-Stone theorem, a weaker version

Rephrasing the Erdős-Stone thm

$$\forall s \geq 1, r \geq 2 \text{ natural numbers } \forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists n_0 \in \mathbb{N} \forall n \geq n_0 \forall G: n(G) = n \geq n_0 \text{ and}$$

$$e(G) \geq \left(1 - \frac{1}{r-1} + \varepsilon\right) \binom{n}{2} \Rightarrow G \supseteq T_{rs,r}$$

Lemma 9.5 (Weaker version of the Erdős-Stone thm)

$$\forall s \geq 1, r \geq 2 \text{ natural numbers } \forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists n_1 \in \mathbb{N} \forall n \geq n_1 \forall G: n(G) = n \geq n_1 \text{ and}$$

$$\delta(G) \geq \left(1 - \frac{1}{r-1} + \varepsilon\right) n \Rightarrow G \supseteq T_{rs,r}$$

Note:  $\delta(G) \geq cn \Rightarrow e(G) \geq cn^2/2 \geq c \binom{n}{2}$

## From the weaker version to Erdős-Stone: Proof idea (1/4)

Given  $s, r, \varepsilon$  as in Erdős-Stone

- We order the vertices  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  of  $G$  s.t.  $v_i$  minimizes the deg of  $G_i = G - \{v_1, \dots, v_{i-1}\}$  (Note:  $G_1 = G$ )
- Namely  $d_{G_i}(v_i) = \delta(G_i)$
- Assume for some  $i$ :  $\delta(G_{i-1}) < (1 - \frac{1}{r-1} + \frac{\varepsilon}{2})n(G_{i-1})$  and  $\delta(G_i) \geq (1 - \frac{1}{r-1} + \frac{\varepsilon}{2})n(G_i)$
- Claim: Can determine  $n_0 = n_0(s, r, \varepsilon)$  s.t.  $n(G_i) \geq n_1(s, r, \varepsilon/2)$ 
  - Then,  $G_i \supseteq T_{rs,r}$  by the weak version

## From the weaker version to Erdős-Stone: Proof idea (2/4)

- By the assumption  $e(G) \geq \left(1 - \frac{1}{r-1} + \varepsilon\right) \binom{n}{2}$
- On the other hand

$$\begin{aligned}
 e(G) &= e(G_i) + \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} d_{G_j}(v_j) \\
 &< \binom{n-i+1}{2} + \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} \left(1 - \frac{1}{r-1} + \frac{\varepsilon}{2}\right) (n-j+1) \\
 &= \binom{n-i+1}{2} + \left(1 - \frac{1}{r-1} + \frac{\varepsilon}{2}\right) \left((n+1)(i-1) - \frac{(i-1)i}{2}\right) \\
 &= \binom{n-i+1}{2} + \left(1 - \frac{1}{r-1} + \frac{\varepsilon}{2}\right) \left(\binom{n}{2} - \binom{n-i+1}{2} + i-1\right)
 \end{aligned}$$

## From the weaker version to Erdős-Stone: Proof idea (3/4)

- Putting together, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \binom{n}{2} &< \left( \frac{1}{r-1} - \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \right) \binom{n-i+1}{2} + \left( 1 - \frac{1}{r-1} + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \right) (i-1) \\ \binom{n-i+1}{2} &> \frac{\frac{\varepsilon}{2} \binom{n}{2} - \left( 1 - \frac{1}{r-1} + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \right) (i-1)}{\frac{1}{r-1} - \frac{\varepsilon}{2}} \\ &\geq \frac{\frac{\varepsilon}{2} \binom{n}{2} - \left( 1 - \frac{1}{r-1} + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \right) n}{\frac{1}{r-1} - \frac{\varepsilon}{2}} \end{aligned}$$

- We want to determine  $n_0(s, r, \varepsilon)$  s.t.  $\forall n \geq n_0(s, r, \varepsilon)$  it holds

$$\frac{\frac{\varepsilon}{2} \binom{n}{2} - \left( 1 - \frac{1}{r-1} + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \right) n}{\frac{1}{r-1} - \frac{\varepsilon}{2}} \geq \binom{n_1(s, r, \varepsilon/2)}{2}$$

## From the weaker version to Erdős-Stone: Proof idea (4/4)

- For brevity, write the LHS as  $c_1(r, \varepsilon)n^2 - c_2(r, \varepsilon)n$  for some  $c_1, c_2$
- To have  $c_1(r, \varepsilon)n^2 - c_2(r, \varepsilon)n \geq \binom{n_1(s, r, \varepsilon/2)}{2}$ , it suffices to have

$$n \geq \frac{c_2(r, \varepsilon) + \sqrt{c_2(r, \varepsilon)^2 + 4c_1(r, \varepsilon)\binom{n_1(s, r, \varepsilon/2)}{2}}}{2c_1(r, \varepsilon)}$$

- Choose this RHS as  $n_0(s, r, \varepsilon)$
- Then,  $n(G_i) = n-i+1 \geq n_1(s, r, \varepsilon/2)$

□

# Proof outline of Erdős-Stone-Simonovits theorem

## Proof outline I

- ① Deduce the Erdős-Simonovits-Stone thm from the Erdős-Stone thm
- ② Deduce the Erdős-Stone thm from its weaker version
- ③ **Prove the weaker version of Erdős-Stone thm**

## Proof outline II

- ① Deduce the Erdős-Simonovits-Stone thm from the Erdős-Stone thm
- ② Use Szemerédi's regularity lemma to prove the embedding lemma (next lecture)
- ③ Use the embedding lemma to prove Erdős-Stone thm

## A weaker version of the Erdős-Stone theorem

**Lemma 9.5 (Weaker version of the Erdős-Stone thm)**

$\forall s \geq 1, r \geq 2$  natural numbers  $\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists n_1 \in \mathbb{N} \forall n \geq n_1 \forall G: n(G) = n \geq n_1$  and

$$\delta(G) \geq \left(1 - \frac{1}{r-1} + \varepsilon\right) n \Rightarrow G \supseteq T_{rs,r}$$

### Proof outline

- ① Induction on  $r$
- ② When  $r = 2$ ,  $\text{ex}(n, T_{2s,2}) = O(n^{1.5})$  so Lem holds (Exercise)
- ③ When  $r > 2$ , by induction we find  $T_{(r-1)t,r-1}$ , for some  $t (> s)$ , in our graph  $G$
- ④ Extend this  $T_{(r-1)t,r-1}$  to  $T_{rs,r}$  in  $G$

## Proof of the weaker version (1/3)

$s \geq 1, r \geq 3, \varepsilon > 0$  given,  $n_1 = n_1(s, r, \varepsilon)$  to be determined later

- Assume  $G$  has  $n \geq n_1(s, r, \varepsilon)$  vertices and satisfies the assumption in the lemma
- Let  $t = \lceil s/\varepsilon \rceil$
- Assuming  $n \geq n_1(t, r-1, \varepsilon)$ ,  $G \supseteq T_{(r-1)t, r-1}$  (Induction)
- Let  $V_1, \dots, V_{r-1}$  the partite sets of  $T_{(r-1)t, r-1}$
- A vtx  $v \in V(G) \setminus (V_1 \cup \dots \cup V_{r-1})$  **good** if  $|N_G(v) \cap V_i| \geq s$  for all  $i \in \{1, \dots, r-1\}$
- $g = \#$  good vertices of  $G$
- (Good vertices are eligible to extend  $T_{(r-1)t, r-1}$  to  $T_{rs, r}$ )

## Proof of the weaker version (2/3)

- Double-count the non-edge pair of vertices between  $V(G) \setminus (V_1 \cup \dots \cup V_{r-1})$  and  $V_1 \cup \dots \cup V_{r-1}$
- From  $V_1 \cup \dots \cup V_{r-1}$ :
  - Each vtx is non-adjacent to at most  $(\frac{1}{r-1} - \varepsilon)n$  vtx's  
(Assumption on the min degree)
  - $\therefore$  This number  $\leq (r-1)t(\frac{1}{r-1} - \varepsilon)n = t(1-(r-1)\varepsilon)n$
- From  $V(G) \setminus (V_1 \cup \dots \cup V_{r-1})$ :
  - Each non-good vtx is non-adjacent to more than  $t-s$  vertices in at least one  $V_i$
  - This number  $> (n-(r-1)t-g)(t-s) \geq (n-(r-1)t-g)s\frac{1-\varepsilon}{\varepsilon}$
- $\therefore (n-(r-1)t-g)s\frac{1-\varepsilon}{\varepsilon} < t(1-(r-1)\varepsilon)n$
- $\therefore g > 1 - \frac{\varepsilon t(1-(r-1)\varepsilon)}{s(1-\varepsilon)}n - (r-1)t$

## Proof of the weaker version (3/3)

- Assuming  $n_1(s, r, \varepsilon) \geq \frac{\binom{t}{s}^{r-1}(s-1)+(r-1)t}{1-\frac{\varepsilon t(1-(r-1)\varepsilon)}{s(1-\varepsilon)}}$ , we have

$$g > \left(1 - \frac{\varepsilon t(1-(r-1)\varepsilon)}{s(1-\varepsilon)}\right) n_1 - (r-1)t \geq \binom{t}{s}^{r-1} (s-1)$$

- By the **pigeonhole principle**:  $\exists$  good vertices  $v_1, \dots, v_s$  and  $r-1$  sets  $A_1, \dots, A_{r-1}$  s.t.
  - $A_i \subseteq V_i$  and  $|A_i| = s \forall i \in \{1, \dots, r-1\}$
  - $|N_G(v_j) \cap A_i| = s \forall i \in \{1, \dots, r-1\}, j \in \{1, \dots, s\}$
- $G[A_1 \cup \dots \cup A_{r-1} \cup \{v_1, \dots, v_s\}]$  contains  $T_{rs,r}$
- Checking the assumptions on  $n_1(s, r, \varepsilon)$ 
  - $n_1(s, r, \varepsilon) \geq n_1(\lceil s/\varepsilon \rceil, r-1, \varepsilon)$
  - $n_1(s, r, \varepsilon) \geq \frac{\binom{\lceil s/\varepsilon \rceil}{s}^{r-1}(s-1)+(r-1)\lceil s/\varepsilon \rceil}{1-\frac{\varepsilon \lceil s/\varepsilon \rceil(1-(r-1)\varepsilon)}{s(1-\varepsilon)}}$
  - Not hard to find  $n_1(s, r, \varepsilon)$  satisfying these two (detail omitted)

# Proof outline of Erdős-Simonovits-Stone theorem

## Proof outline I

- ① Deduce the Erdős-Simonovits-Stone thm from the Erdős-Stone thm
- ② Deduce the Erdős-Stone thm from its weaker version
- ③ Prove the weaker version of Erdős-Stone thm

## Proof outline II (Next lecture)

- ① Deduce the Erdős-Simonovits-Stone thm from the Erdős-Stone thm
- ② Use Szemerédi's regularity lemma to prove the embedding lemma
- ③ Use the embedding lemma to prove Erdős-Stone thm

# Today's contents

- ① Complete multipartite graphs, Turán graphs
- ② Turán's theorem
- ③ Turán-type problems and Erdős-Simonovits-Stone theorem
- ④ Open problems

# Reflection on the Erdős-Simonovits-Stone theorem

## Erdős-Simonovits-Stone theorem

$\forall$  graph  $H$

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

In other words,

$$\text{ex}(n, H) = \left(1 - \frac{1}{\chi(H) - 1}\right) \binom{n}{2} + o(n^2)$$

The theorem does not tell anything when  $\chi(H) = 2$  (i.e.,  $H$  is bipartite); we just find  $\text{ex}(n, H) = o(n^2)$

$\rightsquigarrow$  bipartite Turán-type problems

# Extremality for complete bipartite graphs

## Conjecture

$$\text{ex}(n, K_{s,t}) = \Theta(n^{2-1/s}) \text{ if } s \leq t$$

## Known facts

- $\text{ex}(n, K_{s,t}) = O(n^{2-1/s})$  (Kővári, Sós, Turán '54; Exercise)
- $\text{ex}(n, K_{s,t}) = \Omega(n^{2-(s+t-2)/(st-1)})$  (Erdős, Spencer '74)
- True for  $s = 2$  (Folklore; Exercise)
- True for  $s = 3$  (Erdős, Rényi '62; Brown '66)
- True for  $t \geq s! + 1$  (Kollár, Rónyai, Szabó '96)
- True for  $t \geq (s-1)! + 1$  (Alon, Rónyai, Szabó '99)

Important to notice that these tight lower bounds highly depend on algebra (finite fields, algebraic geometry)

# Extremality for even cycles

## Conjecture

$$\text{ex}(n, C_{2k}) = \Theta(n^{1+1/k})$$

## Known facts

- $\text{ex}(n, C_{2k}) = O(n^{1+1/k})$  (Bondy, Simonovits '74)
- $\text{ex}(n, C_{2k}) = \Omega(n^{1+2/(3k-3)})$  (Lazebnik, Ustimenko, Woldar '95)
- True for  $k = 2$  ( $\because C_4 \simeq K_{2,2}$ )
- True for  $k = 3$  (Benson '66; Wenger '91)
- True for  $k = 5$  (Benson '66; Wenger '91)

## Extremality for trees: Erdős-Sós conjecture

Conjecture (Erdős, Sós '63)

$T$  a tree with  $k \geq 2$  edges  $\Rightarrow \text{ex}(n, T) \leq \frac{1}{2}(k - 1)n$

Known facts

- True for stars ( $K_{1,k}$ ) (Easy; Exercise)
- True for paths ( $P_{k+1}$ ) (Erdős, Gallai '59; Exercise)
- True for all trees w/ diameter  $\leq 4$  (McLennan '05)

Also refer to Exercise 3.4