

# 14 Random Graph vs. Random Regular graph

An attempt to study RRG by means of RG or vice versa:

$G_d$  = random  $d$ -regular graph,

$G = G(n, (1 - o(1))d/n)$ ,  $H = G(n, o(d/n))$  independent random graphs

**Conjecture** For  $\log n \ll d \leq n/2$ , there is a coupling on  $(G_d, G, H)$  such that

$$\Pr[G \subseteq G_d \subseteq G \cup H] = 1 - o(1).$$

If true,  $k$ -connectivity, Hamiltonicity, independence number, (list)chromatic number, the second largest eigenvalue, ... (cf: Copper, Frieze & Reed Krivelevich, Sudakov, Vu & Wormald)

Partial Result:

**Theorem** (K & Vu) For  $d = n^\delta$  with  $0 < \delta < 1/3$ , there is a coupling on  $(G_d, G, H)$  and a constant  $c = c(\delta) > 0$  such that

$$\Pr[G \subseteq G_d, \Delta(G_d \setminus (G \cup H)) < c] = 1 - o(1),$$

where  $\Delta(F)$  is the maximum degree of  $F$ .

## Generating random $d$ -regular graphs

- An algorithm of Steger and Wormald to generate a SIMPLE perfect matching in the configuration model

- (1) We pick pairs of clones one by one.
  - (2) We never pick an edge which creates a loop. Namely, we never pick pairs of clones of the same vertex.
  - (3) Assume that a bunch of edges are picked. In the next step, we only pick a pair of clones that does not create a parallel edge.
- Such a pair that does not create a loop is called [suitable](#).

- An algorithm of Steger and Wormald to generate a **SIMPLE** perfect matching in the configuration model

(I) Start with a set  $V_d$  of  $nd$  clones ( $nd$  even) partitioned into  $n$  groups of size  $d$ .

(II) Choose two unmatched clones  $u, v$  uniformly at random. If the pair  $u, v$  is suitable, match the pair. If not,  $u, v$  remain unmatched. Repeat until no suitable pair exists.

(III) If all clones are matched, output it. Otherwise, the algorithm fails.

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**Q1:** What is the probability of ‘fail’?

**Q2:** If it succeeds, is it uniform (among all perfect matchings that yield SIMPLE  $d$ -regular graphs)?

An algorithm of Steger and Wormald:

Does it generate the (uniform) random regular graph?

An algorithm of Steger and Wormald:

Does it generate the (uniform) random regular graph?

No! But, almost.

**Theorem** (Steger & Wormald) If  $d = o(n^{1/28})$ , then for every  $d$ -regular graph  $G$  on  $n$  vertices

$$\Pr[\text{the algorithm yields } G] = (1 + o(1))p_u.$$

**Theorem** (K & Vu)

If  $d = o(n^{1/3} / \log^{1/2} n)$ , then for every  $d$ -regular graph  $G$  on  $n$  vertices

$$\Pr[\text{the algorithm yields } G] = (1 + o(1))p_u.$$



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**Theorem** For  $d = n^\delta$  with  $0 < \delta < 1/3$ , there is a coupling on  $(G_d, G)$  such that

$$\Pr[G \subseteq G_d] = 1 - o(1).$$

**Proof idea.** We keep choosing uniform random edge  $e_t := \{u_t, v_t\}$  of  $K_n$  with REPITITION and regard  $u, v$  as their clones  $(u, i), (v, j)$ , where  $(u, i)$  and  $(v, j)$  are chosen uniformly at random among all unmatched clones of  $u$  and  $v$ , respectively. Match  $(u, i)$  and  $(v, j)$ .

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**This does not work!**

Why?

For a suitable edge  $\{(u, i), (v, j)\}$  at the conclusion of step  $t - 1$ , the probability that  $\{(u, i), (v, j)\}$  is added in step  $t$  is

$$\binom{n}{2}^{-1} \frac{1}{d_{t-1}(u)d_{t-1}(v)},$$

where  $d_{t-1}(u)$  is the number of unmatched  $u$ -clones at the conclusion of step  $t - 1$ .

## Rejection

We reject  $e_t = \{u_t, v_t\}$  with probability

$$1 - \frac{d_{t-1}(u_t)d_{t-1}(v_t)}{\Lambda_{t-1}^2},$$

where  $\Lambda_{t-1} = \max_u d_{t-1}(u)$ .

**Theorem 14.1** *Let  $\log n \ll d \ll n^{1/3}/\log^2 n$  and  $\varphi(d)$  be any function with  $(d \log n)^{1/2} \leq \varphi(d) \ll d$ . Then there is a joint distribution, or coupling, on  $(G, G_d, GUH)$  such that*

(1) *The distribution of  $G_d$  is that of the uniform random  $d$ -regular graph on  $n$  vertices. The distributions of  $G$  and  $H$  are those of the Erdős-Rényi random graphs with edge probability  $\frac{d}{n}(1 - O((\frac{\log n}{d})^{1/3}))$  and  $O(\frac{\varphi(d)}{n})$ , respectively. Moreover,  $G$  is a random subgraph of  $GUH$  with edge probability  $p_G = 1 - O(\frac{\varphi(d)}{d} + (\frac{\log n}{d})^{1/3})$ .*

(2)

$$\Pr[H \subseteq G_d] = 1 - o(1).$$

(3)

$$\Pr \left[ \Delta(G_d \setminus (G \cup H)) \leq \frac{(1 + o(1)) \log n}{\log(\varphi(d)/\log n)} \right] = 1 - o(1),$$

especially, for  $d = n^\nu$  with  $0 < \nu < 1/3$  and  $\varphi(d) = d/\log \log n$ ,

$$\Pr \left[ \Delta(G_d \setminus (GUH)) \leq \frac{1 + o(1)}{\nu} \right] = 1 - o(1),$$

where  $\Delta(F)$  is the maximum degree of  $F$ .

**Proof idea.** For  $t = 1, \dots, dn/2 + 12\varphi(d)n$ , take i.i.d uniform random edges  $e_t := \{u_t, v_t\}$  of  $K_n$ . We also take i.i.d uniform random numbers  $a_t$  and let  $\xi = (\log n/d)^{1/3}$ . Suppose we have  $G(t-1), M(t-1), H(t-1)$  after step  $t-1$ . Then, for  $t_1 := d/2 - (300/\xi^2)n \log n$ ,

$$G(t) = G(t-1) \cup \{e_t\}1(a_t \geq \xi)1(t \leq t_1),$$

$$H(t) = H(t-1) \cup \{e_t\}1(e_t \notin G(t)),$$

and, for the rejection probability

$$p_t(e_t) := 1 - \frac{d_{t-1}(u_t)d_{t-1}(v_t)}{\Lambda_{t-1}^2},$$

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$$p_t(e_t) := 1 - \frac{d_{t-1}(u_t)d_{t-1}(v_t)}{\Lambda_{t-1}^2},$$

$$M(t) = M(t-1) \cup \{(u_t, i), (v_t, j)\}1(e_t \text{ is suitable})1(a_t \geq p_t(e_t)),$$

where  $(u_t, i), (v_t, j)$  are chosen uniformly at random among all unmatched  $u_t$ -clones and  $v_t$ -clones, respectively.

Clearly,  $\widetilde{M}(t) \subseteq G(t) \cup H(t)$ , and, provided  $\max_e p_t(e) \leq \xi$  for all  $t = 1, \dots, t_1$ ,

$$G(t) \subseteq \widetilde{M}(t).$$

Thus, it is enough to show that

- (1) With high probability,  $\max_e p_t(e) \leq \xi$  for all  $t = 1, \dots, t_1$ , and
  - (2) With high probability, the matching  $M(dn/2 + 12\varphi(d)n)$  is almost perfect, i.e., it leave only few clones unmatched.
- (Recall  $t = 1, \dots, dn/2 + 12\varphi(d)n$ .)