

# Hyperfinite graphs and graphons

Shichang Song

Beijing Jiaotong University

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# Outline

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  - Turán problem
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  - Graphons
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- Extremal graph theory studies graphs that satisfy some extremal problems.
- If a graph with  $n$  vertices contains no triangle, then how many edges can it have at most?
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## Turán problem

### Theorem (Mantel, 1907)

*If a graph with  $n$  vertices has more than  $\frac{n^2}{4}$  edges, then it must contain a triangle.*

### Theorem (Turán, 1941)

*If a graph with  $n$  vertices has more than  $\frac{(k-2)n^2}{2(k-1)}$  edges, then it must contain a  $k$ -clique (a.k.a.  $k$ -complete graph).*

### Remark

*Turán problem: Let  $G$  and  $H$  be two graphs. If  $G$  is  $H$ -free, then how many edges can  $G$  have at most?*

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## Szemerédi theorem

The upper density of  $A \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$  is

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|A \cap \{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}|}{n}.$$

### Theorem

*Every subset of integers with positive upper density contains arbitrarily long arithmetic progressions.*

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## Definitions

- Let  $G$  and  $H$  be two graphs. Let  $\text{hom}(H, G)$  denote the number of homomorphisms from  $H$  to  $G$ .
- The homomorphism density from  $H$  to  $G$  is

$$t(H, G) = \frac{\text{hom}(H, G)}{|V(G)|^{|V(H)|}}.$$

- $t(K_2, G) \approx$  the edge density of  $G$ .
- Let  $C_4$  denote 4-cycles, which is exactly  $\square$ .

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## Motivation problem from extremal graph theory

**Problem** How many 4-cycles must a graph with edge density at least  $\frac{1}{2}$  have?

Theorem (Erdős, 1938)

$$t(C_4, G) \geq t(K_2, G)^4.$$

*In particular, if  $t(K_2, G) \geq \frac{1}{2}$ , then  $t(C_4, G) \geq \frac{1}{16}$ .*

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(Extremal problem) Minimize  $t(C_4, G)$  over all finite graphs satisfying  $t(K_2, G) \geq \frac{1}{2}$ .

- There exist graph sequences  $\{G_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  such that  $t(K_2, G_n) \geq \frac{1}{2}$  and  $t(C_4, G_n) \rightarrow \frac{1}{16}$ .
- $\inf_G t(C_4, G) = \frac{1}{16}$ .
- However, no finite graph with edge density  $\geq \frac{1}{2}$  has 4-cycles density exactly  $\frac{1}{16}$ .
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# Graphons

- In 2006, Lovász and Szegedy introduced the notion of graphon, short for graph function.
- A graphon is a limit of a sequence of finite graphs as the vertices goes to infinity.
- However, a graphon is not always a graph.
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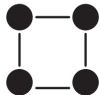
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# Why a function from $[0, 1]^2$ to $[0, 1]$ ?

Graph



Adjacency Matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



Pixel Picture

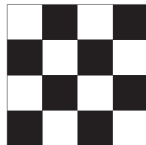


Figure: Source: D. Glasscock



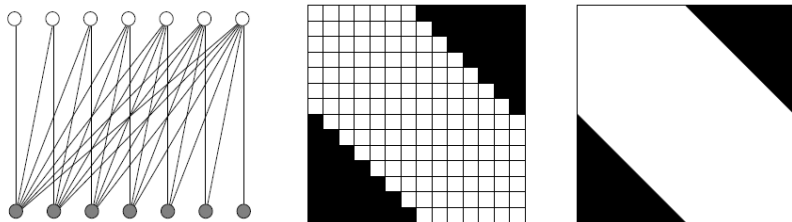


FIGURE 1.7. A half-graph, its pixel picture, and the limit function

Figure: Source: L. Lovász

## The homomorphism density of a graphon

- Let  $W: [0, 1]^2 \rightarrow [0, 1]$  be a symmetric Lebesgue measurable function, i.e., a graphon.
- The edge density of  $W$  is defined as

$$t(K_2, W) = \int_{[0,1]^2} W(x, y) dx dy.$$

- The 4-cycles density of  $W$  is defined as

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# Random graphs

Let  $R_n$  denote a random graph with edge density  $\frac{1}{2}$ .



Observation:  $R_n \rightarrow W \equiv \frac{1}{2}$ .

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# A solution to the extremal problem

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## Internal sets

- An object  $A$  in the nonstandard universe  $V({}^*\mathbb{X})$  is an *internal set* if there is  $B \in V(\mathbb{X})$  such that  $A \in {}^*B$ .
- A subset of  ${}^*\mathbb{X}$  is an *external set* if it's not internal.
- Boolean combinations of internal sets are internal.
- Every standard element is internal.
- Let  $f: \mathbb{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{X}$  be a function and let  $A$  be an internal set. Then  ${}^*f(A)$  and  $({}^*f)^{-1}(A)$  are internal.

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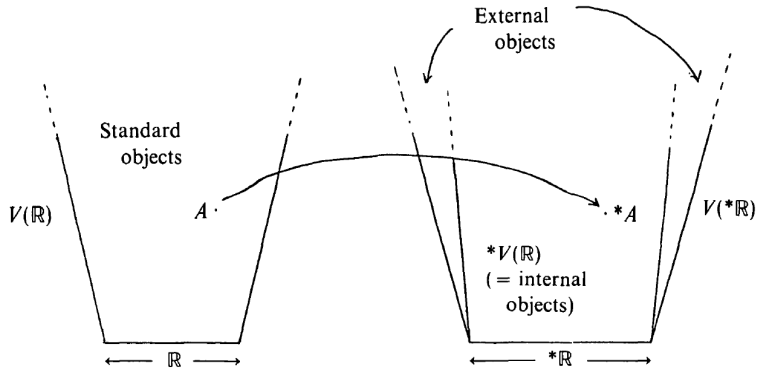


Figure: Source: N. Cutland

## Hyperfinite sets

An internal set  $A$  is *hyperfinite* if there is an internal bijection  $f: \{1, 2, \dots, H\} \rightarrow A$  for some  $H \in {}^*\mathbb{N}$ . In fact, this  $H$  is unique. We use  $|A|$  to denote the internal cardinality  $H$  of  $A$ .

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## Internal finitely additive measure space

A triple  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, P)$  is an internal finitely additive measure space if it satisfies

- 1  $\Omega$  is internal
- 2  $\mathcal{A}$  is an internal subalgebra on  $\Omega$
- 3  $P: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow {}^*\mathbb{R}$  is an internal function that satisfies:
  - (a)  $P(\emptyset) = 0$ ;
  - (b)  $P(\Omega) = 1$ ;
  - (c)  $P$  is finitely additive, i.e.,  
$$P(A \cap B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cup B).$$

### Remark

- *zero probability event and infinitesimal probability event are different.*
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## Loeb theorem

### Theorem (Loeb, 1975)

*Let  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, P)$  be an internal finitely additive probability space. Then there is a (standard) countably additive probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}_L, P_L)$  satisfying*

- $\mathcal{A}_L \supseteq \mathcal{A}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra
- $P_L = \text{st} \circ P$  in  $\mathcal{A}$
- for every  $A \in \mathcal{A}_L$  and positive  $\epsilon \in \mathbb{R}$ , there are  $B, C \in \mathcal{A}$  such  $B \subseteq A \subseteq C$  and  $P(C \setminus B) < \epsilon$
- for every  $A \in \mathcal{A}_L$ , there is  $B \in \mathcal{A}$  such that  $P_L(A \Delta B) = 0$

*We call  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}_L, P_L)$  Loeb probability space.*

## Nonstandard construction of Lebesgue measure

- Take  $H \in {}^*\mathbb{N} \setminus \mathbb{N}$ , consider  $\Omega = \{0, \frac{1}{H}, \frac{2}{H}, \dots, \frac{H-1}{H}\}$ .
- $\Omega$  is a hyperfinite space. Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the collection of internal subsets of  $\Omega$ . For every  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ , define  $\nu(A) = \frac{|A|}{|H|}$ , where  $|\cdot|$  is internal cardinality. We call  $\nu$  the counting measure on  $\Omega$ .
- $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \nu)$  is an internal finitely additive probability space.
- By Loeb Theorem, we get the uniform hyperfinite Loeb probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}_L, \nu_L)$ .
- push-forward measure  $\text{st}_*(\nu_L) = \lambda$  (Lebesgue measure).



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## Nonstandard construction of Lebesgue measure

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## Measure algebras

- A **measure space** is a triple  $(X, \mathcal{A}, \mu)$  where  $X$  is a set,  $\mathcal{A}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra of subsets of  $X$ , and  $\mu: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  is a countably additive finite-valued measure.
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- A boolean algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  is said to be a **measure algebra** if there is a finite-valued  $\mu$  for which  $(\mathcal{A}, \mu)$  is a measured algebra. A measured algebra  $(\mathcal{A}, \mu)$  is called a **probability algebra** if  $\mu(\mathbf{1}) = 1$ .

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## Measure algebras as metric spaces

Let  $(\mathcal{A}, \mu)$  be a measured algebra. For all  $a, b \in \mathcal{A}$ , define

$$d(a, b) = \mu(a \Delta b),$$

where  $\Delta$  is the symmetric difference of those two sets. It is shown that  $(\mathcal{A}, d)$  is a complete metric space.



## Probability algebras associated to probability spaces

- Let  $(X, \mathcal{A}, \mu)$  be a measure space. For all  $a, b \in \mathcal{A}$ , we write  $a \equiv_{\mu} b$  if  $\mu(a \Delta b) = 0$ . Note that  $\equiv_{\mu}$  defines an equivalence relation, and the equivalence class of  $a$  under  $\equiv_{\mu}$  is denoted by  $[a]_{\mu}$ .
- Let  $\widehat{\mathcal{A}}$  denote the set  $\{[a]_{\mu} \mid a \in \mathcal{A}\}$ . Naturally,  $\widehat{\mathcal{A}}$  is a  $\sigma$ -complete boolean algebra.
- Moreover,  $\mu$  induces a countably additive, strictly positive measure on  $\widehat{\mathcal{A}}$ . We call  $(\widehat{\mathcal{A}}, \mu)$  the measured algebra associated to  $(X, \mathcal{A}, \mu)$  and we call  $\widehat{\mathcal{A}}$  the **measure algebra associated to  $(X, \mathcal{A}, \mu)$** .
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# Maharam's Theorem

## Theorem (Maharam's Theorem)

*For all atomless probability spaces  $\Omega$ , there is a countable set of distinct infinite cardinals  $S = \{\kappa_i \mid i \in I\}$  such that the measure algebra of  $\Omega$  is isomorphic to a convex combination of the homogeneous probability algebras  $[0, 1]^{\kappa_i}$ . The set  $S$  is uniquely determined by  $\Omega$  and is called the **Maharam spectra** of  $\Omega$ .* □

## Remark

*The Maharam spectra of  $[0, 1]^\kappa$  is  $\{\kappa\}$ , where  $\kappa$  is infinite.*

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## Maharam spectra of hyperfinite Loeb spaces

### Theorem (Jin and Keisler)

*Let  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mu)$  be a hyperfinite set with the normalized counting probability measure. Then the Maharam spectra of its corresponding Loeb space is  $\{\text{Card}(2^{|\Omega|})\}$ .*

R. Jin and H. J. Keisler, *Maharam spectra of Loeb spaces*, J. Symb. Log. 65 (2000), 550–566.

# Atomlessness

- A measure space  $(X, \mathcal{A}, \mu)$  is **atomless** if for every  $a \in \mathcal{A}$  with  $\mu(a) > 0$ , there exists  $b \in \mathcal{A}$  such that  $b \subseteq a$  and  $0 < \mu(b) < \mu(a)$ .
- Let  $(X, \mathcal{A}, \mu)$  be a measure space and let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a  $\sigma$ -subalgebra of  $\mathcal{A}$ . We say that  $\mathcal{A}$  is **atomless over  $\mathcal{B}$** , if for every  $a \in \mathcal{A}$  of positive measure, there exists  $b \in \mathcal{A}$  such that for all  $c \in \mathcal{B}$ , we have  $a \cap b \neq a \cap c$ .



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# Maharam's Lemma

## Lemma (Maharam's Lemma)

Let  $(X, \mathcal{A}, \mu) \supseteq (X, \mathcal{B}, \mu)$  be measure spaces. Then the following are equivalent:

- 1 The measure space  $(X, \mathcal{A}, \mu)$  is atomless over  $(X, \mathcal{B}, \mu)$ .
- 2 For every  $a \in \mathcal{A}$  of positive measure and for every  $\mathcal{B}$ -measurable function  $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $0 \leq f \leq \mathbb{E}(a | \mathcal{B})$ , there is a set  $b \in \mathcal{A}$  such that  $b \subseteq a$  and  $\mathbb{E}(b | \mathcal{B}) = f$ .

## Maharam spectra and atomlessness

### Theorem (S.)

*If  $\Omega$  is an atomless probability space and  $\kappa$  is an infinite cardinal, then the following are equivalent:*

- 1  $\Omega$  is  $\kappa$ -saturated.
- 2 Every cardinal in the Maharam spectra of  $\Omega$  is  $\geq \kappa$ .
- 3  $\Omega$  is  $\kappa$ -atomless.

# Hyperfinite graphs

- Take a hyperfinite set  $N = \{1, 2, \dots, H\}$ .
- Consider internal graph  $G$  on  $N$ , i.e., a graph whose edge set  $E(G) \subseteq N \times N$  is an internal subset.
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## Lebesgue sample

### Theorem (Bernstein and Wattenberg)

*There is a hyperfinite set  $S$  satisfying  $[0, 1] \subseteq S \subseteq {}^*[0, 1]$  such that for every Lebesgue measurable set  $B \subseteq [0, 1]$ ,*

$$\lambda(B) = \text{st}\left(\frac{|{}^*B \cap S|}{|S|}\right).$$

*Such  $S$  is called a **Lebesgue sample** of  $[0, 1]$ .*

A. R. Bernstein and F. Watterberg, *Nonstandard measure theory*, in: Applications of model theory to algebra, analysis and probability (Ed. W. A. J. Luxemburg, Holt, Rinehard and Winston), New York, 1969, 171–185.

## Remark

For every Lebesgue measurable set  $B \subseteq [0, 1]$ ,

$$\lambda(B) = \text{st}\left(\frac{|{}^*B \cap S|}{|S|}\right).$$

The Lebesgue measure of Lebesgue measurable  $B \subseteq [0, 1]$   
 $\approx$  the density of the set of elements in Lebesgue sample  $S$  that  
is infinitely close to  $B$  in  $S$ .

# Main Theorem

## Theorem (S.)

*Let  $S$  be a Lebesgue sample of  $[0, 1]$  and  $(S, L(S), \nu_L)$  the uniform Loeb probability space on  $S$ . Let  $(S \times S, L(S \times S), (\nu \times \nu)_L)$  be the product Loeb probability space. Consider the standard part map  $\text{st} \times \text{st}: S \times S \rightarrow [0, 1]^2$ . Let  $\mathcal{C}$  denote  $(\text{st} \times \text{st})^{-1}(\mathcal{L}([0, 1]^2))$ . Then, for every graphon  $f: [0, 1]^2 \rightarrow [0, 1]$ , there is an internal graph  $G$  on  $S$  such that  $f = \mathbb{E}(E(G)|\mathcal{C})|_{[0,1] \times [0,1]}$ .*

## Sketch of the proof I

- Let  $L_0(S) = \text{st}^{-1}(\mathcal{L}([0, 1]))$ . Then,

$$\text{st}: (S, L_0(S), \nu_L) \rightarrow ([0, 1], \mathcal{L}([0, 1]), \lambda)$$

is an isomorphism between probability spaces.

- The Maharam spectrum of  $(S, L_0(S), \nu_L)$  is  $\{\aleph_0\}$ .
- By Jin and Keisler's theorem, the Maharam spectrum of  $(S, L(S), \nu_L)$  is  $\text{Card}(2^{|S|}) \geq 2^{2^{\aleph_0}} > 2^{\aleph_0}$ .
- Then  $(S, L(S), \nu_L)$  is  $2^{2^{\aleph_0}}$ -atomless, and thus  $L(S)$  is atomless over  $L_0(S)$ .

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## Sketch of the proof II

- Consider product Loeb space  $(\mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{S}, L(\mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{S}), (\nu \times \nu)_L)$ . Anderson showed that  $\overline{L(\mathcal{S}) \times L(\mathcal{S})} \subsetneq L(\mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{S})$  and  $\nu_L \times \nu_L \subsetneq (\nu \times \nu)_L$ .
- Since  $L(\mathcal{S})$  is atomless over  $L_0(\mathcal{S})$ , it follows that  $\overline{L(\mathcal{S}) \times L(\mathcal{S})}$  is atomless over  $\overline{L_0(\mathcal{S}) \times L_0(\mathcal{S})}$ , and thus,  $L(\mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{S})$  is atomless over  $\overline{L_0(\mathcal{S}) \times L_0(\mathcal{S})}$ .
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## Sketch of the proof III

- Since  $L(S \times S)$  is atomless over  $\mathcal{C}$ , by Maharam's Lemma and Lifting Theorem for every Lebesgue measurable  $f: [0, 1] \times [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  there is a Loeb measurable set  $A \subseteq S \times S$  such that  $\mathbb{E}(A|\mathcal{C}) = (\text{st} \times \text{st}) \circ f$ .
- Then by Loeb Theorem, there is an internal set  $B \subseteq S \times S$  satisfying  $(\nu \times \nu)_L(A \Delta B) = 0$  such that  $\mathbb{E}(B|\mathcal{C}) = (\text{st} \times \text{st}) \circ f$ .
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- If  $f: [0, 1] \times [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is a graphon, then we get an internal graph  $G$  on  $S$  such that  $\mathbb{E}(E(G) | \mathcal{C})_{[0,1] \times [0,1]} = f$ .

## Sketch of the proof III

- Since  $L(S \times S)$  is atomless over  $\mathcal{C}$ , by Maharam's Lemma and Lifting Theorem for every Lebesgue measurable  $f: [0, 1] \times [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  there is a Loeb measurable set  $A \subseteq S \times S$  such that  $\mathbb{E}(A|\mathcal{C}) = (\text{st} \times \text{st}) \circ f$ .
- Then by Loeb Theorem, there is an internal set  $B \subseteq S \times S$  satisfying  $(\nu \times \nu)_L(A \Delta B) = 0$  such that  $\mathbb{E}(B|\mathcal{C}) = (\text{st} \times \text{st}) \circ f$ .
- If  $f: [0, 1] \times [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is a graphon, then we get an internal graph  $G$  on  $S$  such that  $\mathbb{E}(E(G) | \mathcal{C})_{[0,1] \times [0,1]} = f$ .

# Thanks

**Thank you for your attention !**