

# Spectra of random regular hypergraphs

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*Joint work with Yizhe Zhu*

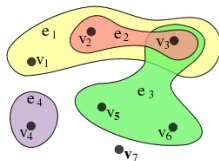
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- 1 Motivation: Hypergraphs
- 2 Perspectives on Regular Hypergraphs
- 3 A Key Bijection
- 4 Applications: unwrapping of the spectra of regular hypergraphs
- 5 Conclusions

# Hypergraphs

- Hypergraph:  $V$  = vertex set,  $E$  = edge set



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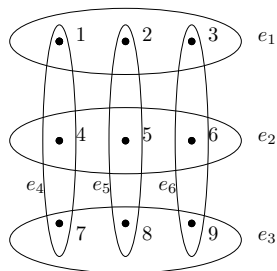
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- $k = 2$ :  $d$ -regular graphs.





# Applications of Hypergraphs

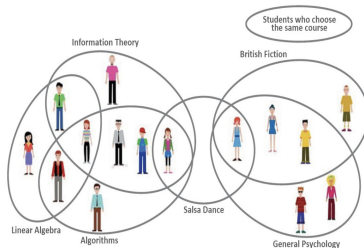
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- As with graphs, one main object of study is *expansion* (edge, vertex, spectral)

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- Local laws, eigenvectors, etc.

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- Applications in optimization, etc.

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- Incidentally, general hypergraphs' eigenvalues have been connected to diameters, random walks, Ricci curvature (Banerjee '17)

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## Theorem (Feng-Li 1996)

Let  $G_n$  be any sequence of connected  $(d, k)$ -regular hypergraphs with  $n$  vertices. Then

$$\lambda_2(A_n) \geq k - 2 + 2\sqrt{(d-1)(k-1)} - \epsilon_n.$$

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- Algebraic construction: Martínez-Stark-Terras (2001), Li (2004), Sarveniazi (2007).

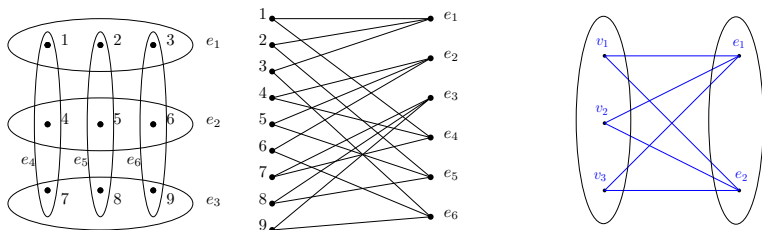
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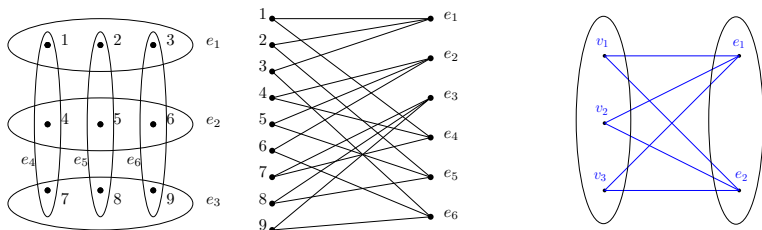
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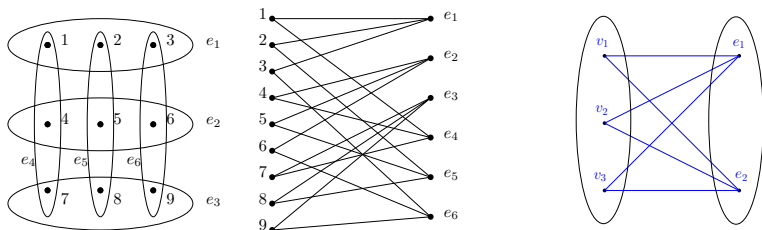
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- Any event  $F$  holds whp for random bipartite biregular graphs  $\Leftrightarrow F$  holds whp for the uniform measure over  $S_1$   $\Leftrightarrow$  corresponding  $F'$  holds whp for random regular hypergraphs.

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$$|\lambda(A_n) - (k-2)| \leq 2\sqrt{(d-1)(k-1)} + \epsilon_n$$

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- Uses Brito, D., Harris ('20)
- What does  $\lambda_2$  tell us about  $H$ ?

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$$\left| e(V_1, V_2) - \frac{d(k-1)}{n} |V_1| \cdot |V_2| \right| \leq \lambda \sqrt{|V_1| \cdot |V_2| \left(1 - \frac{|V_1|}{n}\right) \left(1 - \frac{|V_2|}{n}\right)}.$$

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$e(V_1, V_2)$  : number of hyperedges between  $V_1, V_2$  with multiplicity  $|e \cap V_1| \cdot |e \cap V_2|$  for any hyperedge  $e$ .

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such that  $v_i \neq v_{i+1}, \{v_i, v_{i+1}\} \subset e_{i+1}$  and  $e_i \neq e_{i+1}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq \ell - 1$ .

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- a NBRW of length  $\ell$  from  $v_0$ : a uniformly chosen member of all non-backtracking walks of length  $\ell$  starting at  $v_0$ .
- How fast does the NBRW converge to a stationary distribution?  
Mixing rate:

$$\rho(H) := \limsup_{\ell \rightarrow \infty} \max_{i,j \in V} \left| (P^{(\ell)})_{ij} - \frac{1}{n} \right|^{1/\ell}.$$

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Theorem (D.-Zhu 2019)

$$\rho(H) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(d-1)(k-1)}} \psi \left( \frac{\lambda}{2\sqrt{(k-1)(d-1)}} \right), \text{ where } \lambda := \max\{\lambda_2, |\lambda_n|\} \text{ and}$$

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- NBRWs mix faster than simple random walks.

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$$B_{(i,e),(j,f)} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } j \in e \setminus \{i\}, f \neq e, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$



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$d, k$ constant	$f(x) = \frac{1 + \frac{k-1}{q}}{(1 + \frac{1}{q} - \frac{x}{\sqrt{q}})(1 + \frac{(k-1)^2}{q} + \frac{(k-1)x}{\sqrt{q}})} \frac{1}{\pi} \sqrt{1 - \frac{x^2}{4}}$ <p>with <math>q = (k-1)(d-1)</math>. <math>k=2</math>: Kesten-McKay law</p>
$d \rightarrow \infty, \frac{d}{k} \rightarrow \alpha > 0$ $d = o(n^\epsilon)$ for any $\epsilon > 0$	$f(x) = \frac{\alpha}{1 + \alpha + \sqrt{\alpha x}} \frac{1}{\pi} \sqrt{1 - \frac{x^2}{4}}$ <p>Marčenko-Pastur law</p>
$\frac{d}{k} \rightarrow \infty, d = o(n^\epsilon)$	$f(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \sqrt{1 - \frac{x^2}{4}}$ <p>semicircle law</p>

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- Two ingredients: cycle counts (via switchings) and spectral gap ( $\lambda_2 = O(\sqrt{\lambda_1})$ ).
- A cycle in a hypergraph is a cycle in the RBBG. A non-backtracking cycle in the hypergraph is a non-backtracking cycle in the RBBG.

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  - spectral gap ( $\lambda_2 = O(\sqrt{d_1})$ ) for BBGs when  $d_1 \geq d_2 = O(n^{2/3})$ , for  $A$
  - more refined,  $(\lambda_2^2 - d_1) = O(\sqrt{d_1(d_2 - 1)})$  when  $d_2 = O(1)$ .

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- Enough to calculate fluctuations for  $A$  when  $d_1/d_2$  bounded in both directions, but if  $d_2/d_1 \rightarrow 0$ , only good enough when  $d_2$  constant. More work needed.

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- Good excuse to study BBGs more in-depth
- Reason to look at more applications
- Reason to study and understand tensors