

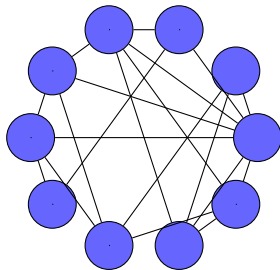
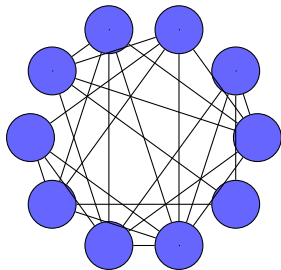
# S&DS 684 Lecture 12: Random Graph Matching: Information-theoretic Limits

Yihong Wu

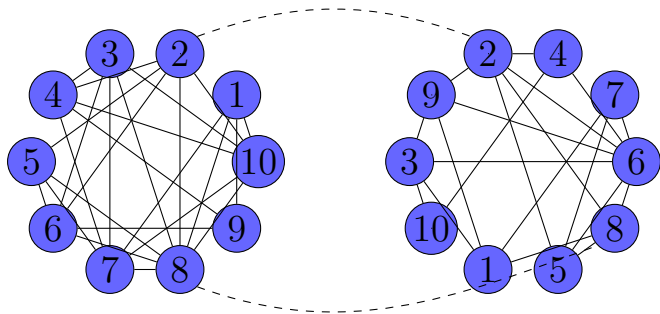
Department of Statistics and Data Science  
Yale University

Apr 18, 2023

## Graph matching (network alignment)



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**Goal:** find a **mapping** between two node sets that maximally aligns the edges (i.e. minimizes # of adjacency disagreements)

## QAP (1)

Given symmetric  $n \times n$  matrices  $A, B$ , solve

$$\text{Quadratic Assignment Problem (QAP) : } \max_{\pi \in S_n} \sum_{i < j} A_{\pi(i)\pi(j)} B_{ij}$$

- Introduced by Koopmans-Beckmann '57 (Yale Econ)

**COWLES FOUNDATION DISCUSSION PAPER, NO. 4\***

**Assignment Problems and the Location of Economic Activities\*\***

by

**Tjalling C. Koopmans and Martin Beckmann**

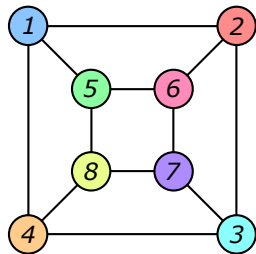
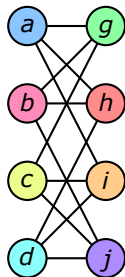


## QAP (2)

Noiseless case: QAP  $\iff$  **Graph isomorphism**

Given two graphs  $A$  and  $B$ , decide whether  $A \cong B$ , i.e., there exists a bijection  $\pi : V(A) \rightarrow V(B)$  such that

$$(u, v) \in E(A) \iff (\pi(u), \pi(v)) \in E(B)$$

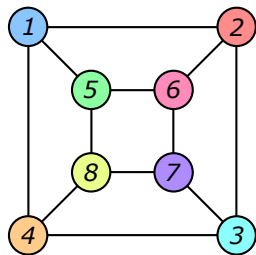
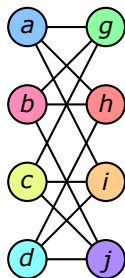


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- Not known to be solvable in polynomial time in the worst case
- In practice, two graphs are often not exactly isomorphic, but still want to tell whether **their topologies are similar**

## QAP (3)

QAP includes many problems as special cases:  $A = \text{adj}$  matrix of observed graph

- Planted clique (Part I):

$$B = \text{adj matrix of a fixed } k\text{-clique}$$

- Minimum bisection (Part II):

$$B = \xi\xi^\top, \quad \xi = (1, \dots, 1, -1, \dots, -1)^\top.$$

- TSP (Lec 12):

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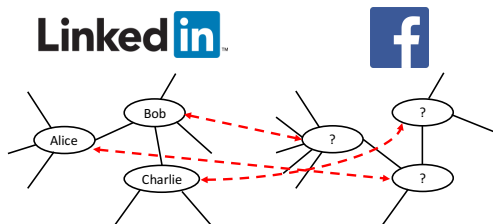
- TSP (Lec 12):

$$B = \text{adj matrix of a fixed Hamiltonian cycle}$$

Here we will be dealing with  $B$  being Erdős-Rényi as well.

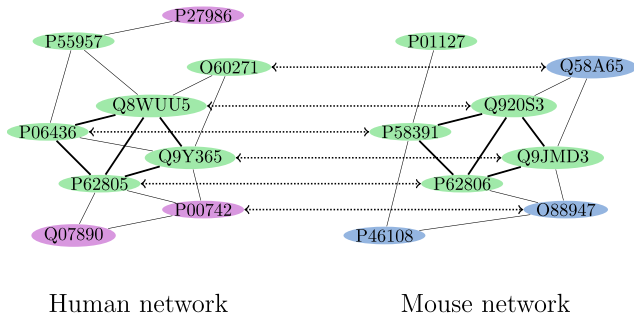


# Application 1: Network de-anonymization



- Successfully de-anonymize Netflix dataset by matching it to IMDB  
[Narayanan-Shmatikov '08]
- Correctly identify 30.8% of shared users between Twitter and Flickr  
[Narayanan-Shmatikov '09]

## Application 2: Protein-Protein Interaction network



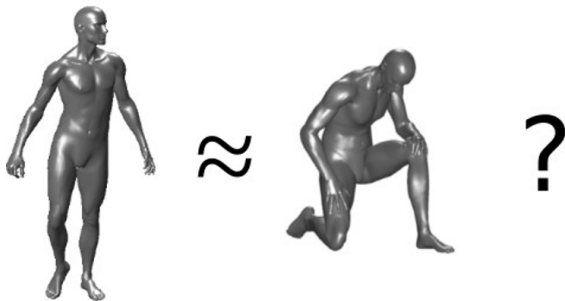
[Kazemi-Hassani-Grossglauer-Modarres '16]

Graph matching for aligning PPI networks between different species, to identify conserved components and genes with common function

[Singh-Xu-Berger '08]

## Application 3: Computer vision

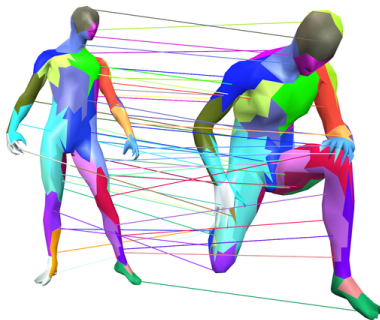
A fundamental problem in computer vision: Detect and match similar objects that undergo different deformations



Shape REtrieval Contest (SHREC) dataset [Lähler et al '16]

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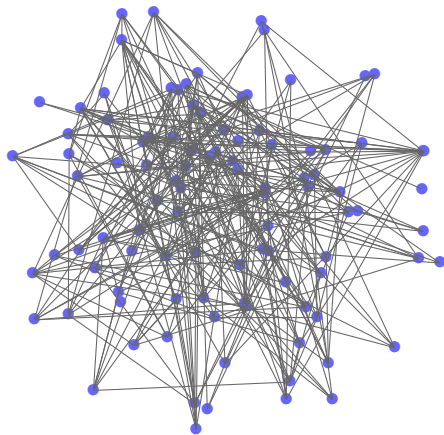
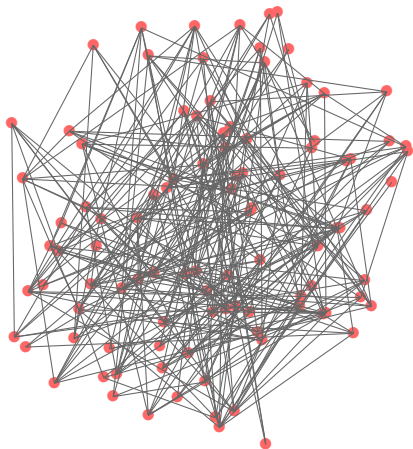


Shape REtrieval Contest (SHREC) dataset [[Löhner et al '16](#)]

3-D shapes  $\rightarrow$  geometric graphs (features  $\rightarrow$  nodes, distances  $\rightarrow$  edges)

## Two key challenges

- **Statistical**: two graphs may not be the same
- **Computational**: # of possible node mappings is  $n!$  ( $100! \approx 10^{158}$ )



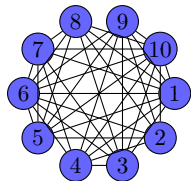
## Beyond worst-case intractability

- **NP-hard** for matching two graphs in worst case
  - ▶ QAP is hard to approximate within  $\exp(\text{polylog}(n))$  multiplicative factor [Makarychev-Manokaran-Sviridenko '15]
- However, real networks are not arbitrary and have latent structures

# Beyond worst-case intractability

- **NP-hard** for matching two graphs in worst case
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- However, real networks are not arbitrary and have latent structures
- Recent surge of interests on the **average-case** analysis of matching **correlated random graphs** [Feizi at el.'16, Lyzinski at el'16, Cullina-Kiyavash'16,17, Ding-Ma-W-Xu'18, Barak-Chou-Lei-Schramm-Sheng'19, Fan-Mao-W-Xu'19a,19b, Ganassali-Massoulié'20, Hall-Massoulié'20, ...]
  - ▶ CS-style average-case analysis: under null model, aiming to understand “what’s the fraction of bad instances”
  - ▶ Stat-style average-case analysis: under planted model (meaningful statistical model).
- Focus on correlated Erdős-Rényi graphs model [Pedarsani-Grossglauser '11]

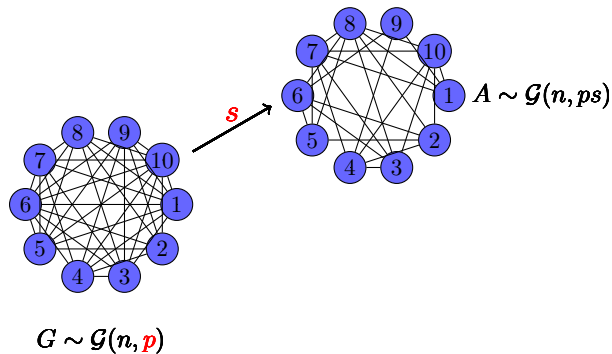
# Correlated Erdős-Rényi graphs model $\mathcal{G}(n, p, s)$



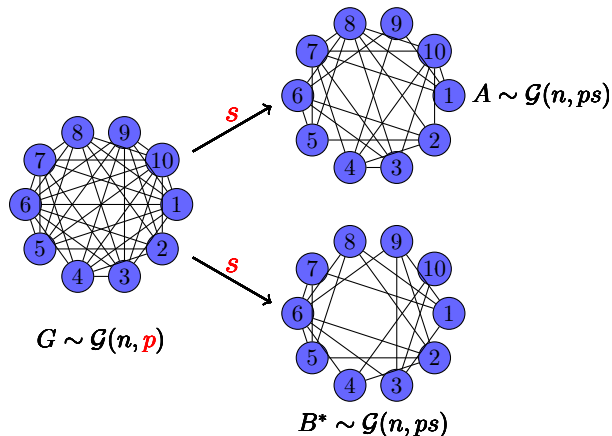
$$G \sim \mathcal{G}(n, p)$$



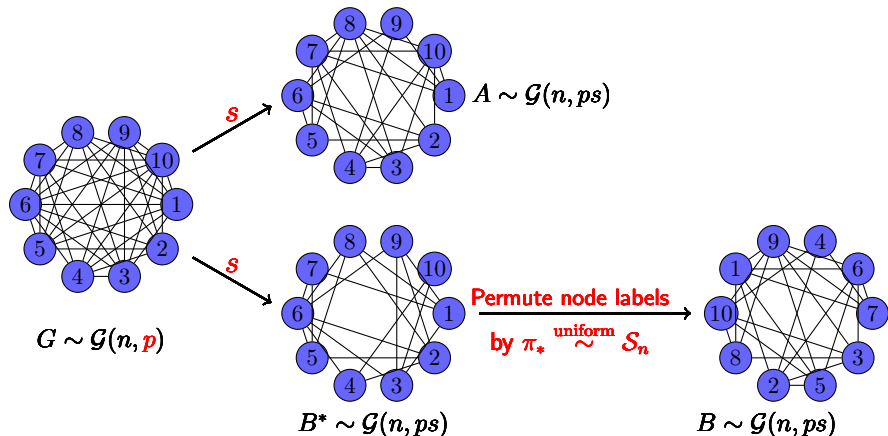
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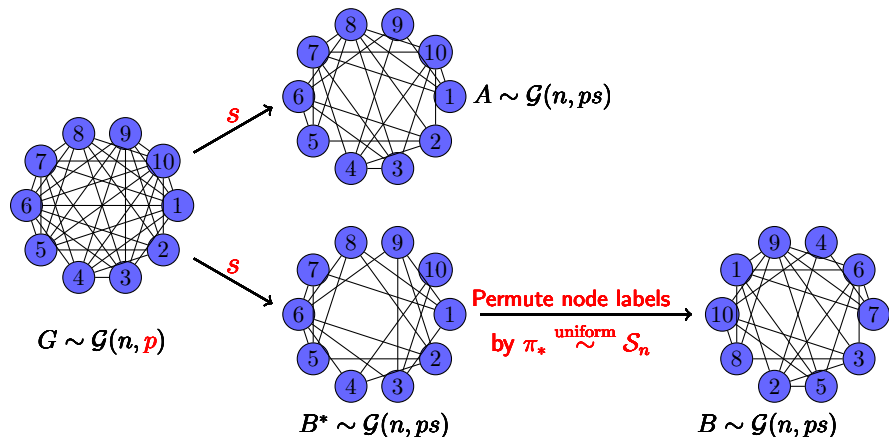
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- $(A_{\pi_*(i)\pi_*(j)}, B_{ij})$  are iid pairs of correlated  $\text{Bern}(ps)$
- Key parameter  $nps^2$ : average degree of **intersection graph**  $A \wedge B^*$ ;

## Correlated Gaussian model

$$B = \rho A^{\pi_*} + \sqrt{1 - \rho^2} Z,$$

where

- $A$  and  $Z$  are independent Gaussian Wigner matrices with iid standard normal entries;
- $A^{\pi_*} = (A_{\pi_*(i)\pi_*(j)})$  denotes the relabeled version of  $A$
- Conditional on  $\pi_*$ , for any  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ ,

$$(A_{\pi_*(i)\pi_*(j)}, B_{ij}) \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \rho \\ \rho & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right).$$

## Two statistical tasks: detection and estimation

- Detection:
  - ▶  $\mathcal{H}_0$ :  $A$  and  $B$  are **independent** Erdős-Rényi graphs  $\mathcal{G}(n, ps)$
  - ▶  $\mathcal{H}_1$ :  $A$  and  $B$  are **correlated** Erdős-Rényi graphs  $\mathcal{G}(n, p, s)$
  - ▶ Test between  $\mathcal{H}_0$  and  $\mathcal{H}_1$  based on observation of  $(A, B)$
- Estimation:
  - ▶ Observe two correlated Erdős-Rényi graphs  $A, B \sim \mathcal{G}(n, p, s)$
  - ▶ Recover the underlying true vertex correspondence  $\pi_*$

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### Focus of this lecture

What are the **information-theoretic limits** of detection and estimation?  
(Next Tuesday: Algorithms.)

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### Focus of this lecture

What are the **information-theoretic limits** of detection and estimation?  
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Progress in the recent decade: [Pedarsani-Grossglauser '11], [Cullina-Kiyavash '16,17], [Hall-Massoulié '20], [Ganassali '20], [W-Xu-Yu '20,21], [Ganassali-Lelarge-Massoulié '21], [Ding-Du '21 22]



# Maximum likelihood estimation as quadratic assignment

Maximum likelihood estimation reduces to **quadratic assignment** (QAP):

$$\hat{\pi}_{\text{ML}} \in \arg \max_{\pi} \sum_{i < j} A_{\pi(i)\pi(j)} B_{ij}.$$

- QAP is NP-hard in worst case
- How much does  $\hat{\pi}_{\text{ML}}$  have in common with  $\pi^*$ ?

$$\text{overlap}(\pi_*, \hat{\pi}) \triangleq \frac{1}{n} \left| \{i \in [n] : \hat{\pi}(i) = \pi_*(i)\} \right|$$

i.e., fraction of correctly classified nodes

## Sharp threshold for detection: Gaussian

Theorem (W-Xu-Yu '20)

$$n\rho^2 \geq (4 + \epsilon) \log n \implies \text{TV}(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{Q}) = 1 - o(1) \text{ (test error} = o(1)\text{)}$$

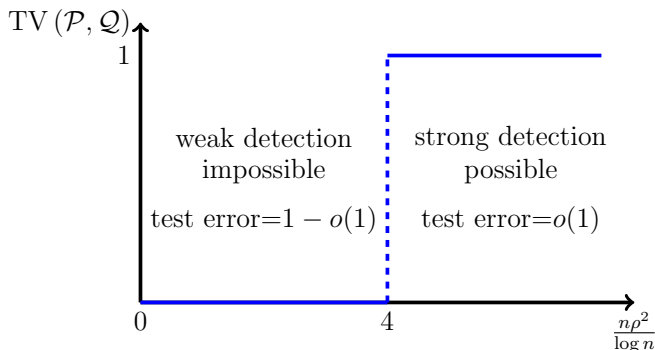
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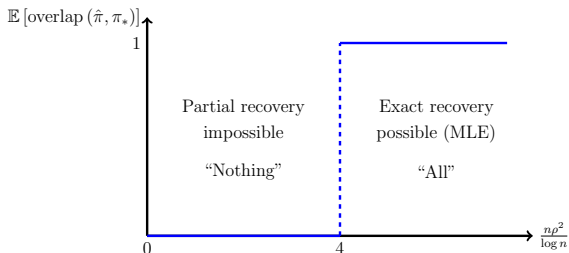


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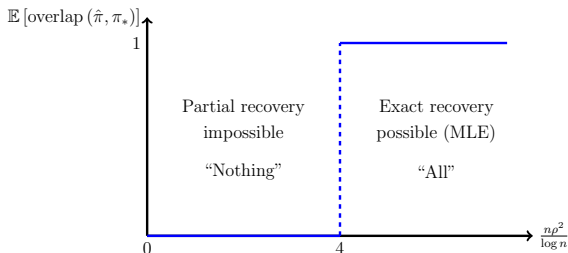


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- Exact recovery threshold is derived in [\[Ganassali '20\]](#)
- Exhibits a stronger form of “all or nothing” phenomenon
- Only a **vanishing amount of correlation** allows detection and recovery

## Sharp detection threshold: dense Erdős-Rényi graphs

Theorem (W-Xu-Yu '20)

Suppose  $n^{-o(1)} \leq p \leq 1 - \Omega(1)$ . Then,

$$nps^2 \geq \frac{(2 + \epsilon) \log n}{\log \frac{1}{p} - 1 + p} \implies \text{TV}(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{Q}) = 1 - o(1) \text{ (test error} = o(1)\text{)}$$

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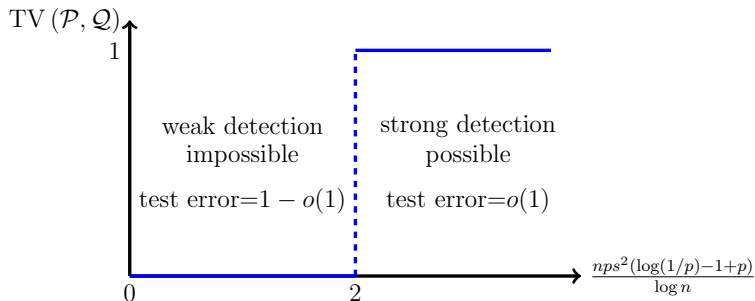
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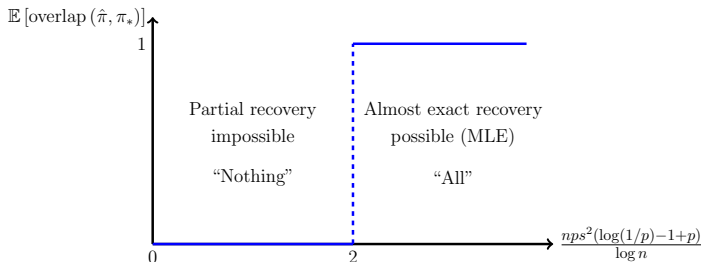
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Interpretation of threshold:

- $I(\pi_*; A, B) \approx \binom{n}{2} \times \underbrace{ps^2 \left( \log \frac{1}{p} - 1 + p \right)}_{\text{mutual info btw two correlated edges}}$
- $H(\pi_*) \approx n \log n$
- Threshold is at  $I(\pi; A, B) \approx H(\pi_*)$
- Only a **vanishing amount of correlation** allows detection and recovery

# Sharp detection threshold: sparse Erdős-Rényi

## Theorem (Ding-Du '22a)

Suppose  $p = n^{-\alpha}$  for  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  and  $\lambda^* = \gamma^{-1}(1/\alpha)$ .

$$nps^2 \geq \lambda^* + \epsilon \implies \text{TV}(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{Q}) = 1 - o(1) \text{ (test error} = o(1)\text{)}$$

$$nps^2 \leq \lambda^* - \epsilon \implies \text{TV}(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{Q}) = o(1) \text{ (test error} = 1 - o(1)\text{)}$$

- Sharpens the earlier threshold of  $nps^2 = \Theta(1)$  [W-Xu-Yu '20]
- $\gamma : [1, \infty) \rightarrow [1, \infty)$  is given by the **densest subgraph problem** in Erdős-Rényi  $\mathcal{G}(n, \frac{\lambda}{n})$  [Hajek '90, Anantharam-Salez' 16]

$$\max_{\emptyset \neq U \subset [n]} \frac{|\mathcal{E}(U)|}{|U|} \rightarrow \gamma(\lambda)$$

- When  $np = \Theta(1)$ , there is no zero-one phase transition.

# Sharp recovery threshold: sparse Erdős-Rényi

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- The case of  $\alpha = 1$  is proved in [Ganassali-Lelarge-Massoulié '21]
- Sharpen the partial recovery threshold at  $nps^2 = \Theta(1)$  [W-Xu-Yu '20]
- “All-or-nothing” phenomenon does **not** exist, as almost exact recovery (overlap =  $1 - o(1)$ ) requires  $nps^2 \rightarrow \infty$  [Cullina-Kiyavash-Mittal-Poor '19]

# Exact recovery threshold

## Theorem (W-Xu-Yu '21)

Suppose  $p \leq 1 - \Omega(1)$ . Then

$$nps^2 \geq \frac{(1 + \epsilon) \log n}{(1 - \sqrt{p})^2} \implies \text{overlap}(\hat{\pi}_{\text{ML}}, \pi_*) = 1 \text{ whp.}$$

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- $p = o(1)$ : reduces to the **connectivity threshold** of the intersection graph  $A \wedge B^* \sim \mathcal{G}(n, ps^2)$  [Cullina-Kiyavash'16,17].

Fact about Erdős-Rényi graph: For  $G \sim \mathcal{G}(n, q)$ ,

- ▶ If  $q \geq \frac{(1+\epsilon) \log n}{n}$ ,  $G$  is connected.
- ▶ If  $q \leq \frac{(1-\epsilon) \log n}{n}$ ,  $G$  has many isolated vertices.

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- ▶ If  $q \leq \frac{(1-\epsilon) \log n}{n}$ ,  $G$  has many isolated vertices.
- $p = \Omega(1)$ : **strictly higher** than the connectivity threshold

## Analysis

- Proof of detection thresholds
- Proof of exact recovery thresholds

## Proof of detection thresholds: Positive results

- Gaussian or dense Erdős-Rényi: analyzing QAP statistic

$$T_{\text{QAP}} = \max_{\pi \in \mathcal{S}_n} \sum_{i < j} A_{\pi(i)\pi(j)} B_{ij}$$

In Erdős-Rényi model:  $T_{\text{QAP}}$  = size of **maximal common subgraph**

- Analysis: standard first-moment computation (next page)



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- Analysis: standard first-moment computation (next page)
- Sparse Erdős-Rényi: analyzing densest subgraph statistic

$$\max_{\pi \in \mathcal{S}_n} \max_{U \subset [n]; |U| \geq n/\log n} \frac{\mathcal{E}_\pi(U)}{|U|},$$

where  $\mathcal{E}_\pi(U)$  is the set of edges induced by vertices in  $U$  in intersection graph  $A^\pi \wedge B$

# Proof of detection thresholds: Positive results

Gaussian analysis:

$$T_{\text{QAP}} = \max_{\pi \in \mathcal{S}_n} \sum_{i < j} A_{\pi(i)\pi(j)} B_{ij}.$$

- Under  $\mathcal{P}$  ( $\rho$ -correlated):

$$T_{\text{QAP}} \geq \sum_{i < j} A_{\pi_*(i)\pi_*(j)} B_{ij} \approx \rho \binom{n}{2}$$

- Under  $\mathcal{Q}$  (independent):

$$\mathcal{Q} \left( T_{\text{QAP}} \leq \rho \binom{n}{2} \right) \lesssim n! \exp \left( -\frac{(\rho \binom{n}{2})^2}{2 \binom{n}{2}} \right) \approx \exp(\rho^2 n^2 / 4 - n \log n)$$

- $\rho^2 = \frac{(4+\epsilon) \log n}{n} \implies$  success

## Proof of detection thresholds: Negative results

Second-moment method (Chap 7):

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Q}} \left[ \left( \frac{\mathcal{P}(A, B)}{\mathcal{Q}(A, B)} \right)^2 \right] = O(1) \quad \implies \text{TV}(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{Q}) \leq 1 - \Omega(1)$$

Strong detection is impossible

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Q}} \left[ \left( \frac{\mathcal{P}(A, B)}{\mathcal{Q}(A, B)} \right)^2 \right] = 1 + o(1) \quad \implies \text{TV}(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{Q}) = o(1)$$

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Here

$$\frac{\mathcal{P}(A, B)}{\mathcal{Q}(A, B)} = \frac{1}{n!} \sum_{\pi_* \in \mathcal{S}_n} \frac{\mathcal{P}(A, B | \pi_*)}{\mathcal{Q}(A, B)}.$$

As usual, second moment computation involves two iid replicas  $\pi_*$  and  $\tilde{\pi}$

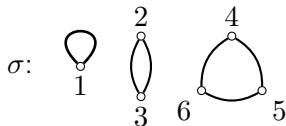
## Cycle (orbit) decomposition

- **Node permutation**  $\sigma$  acts on  $[n]$
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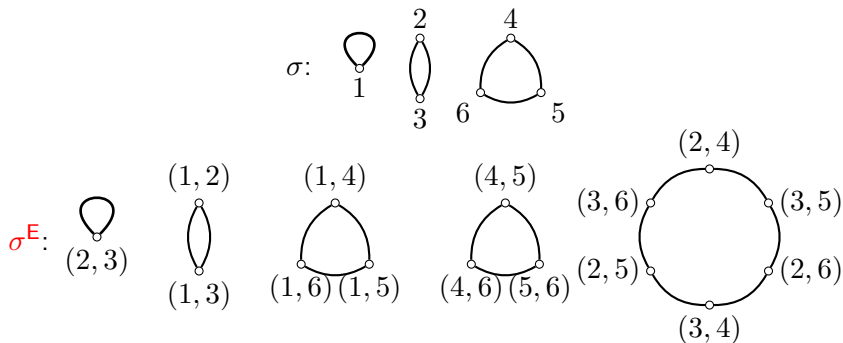
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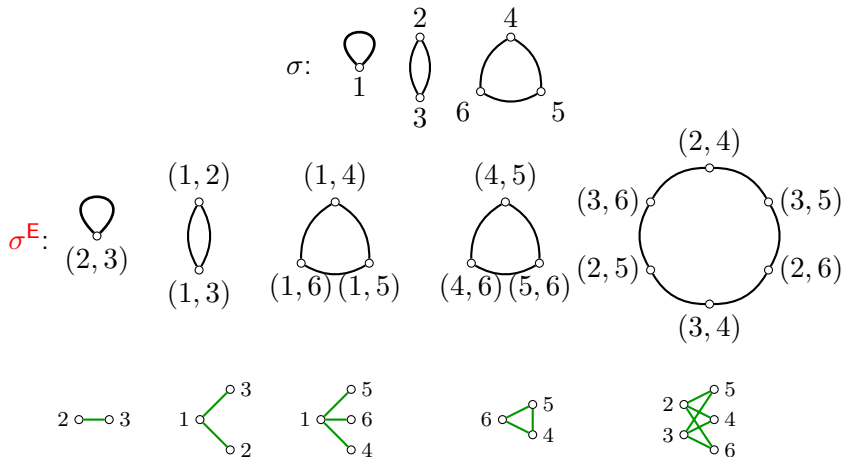
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## Second moment via orbit decomposition (1)

$$\begin{aligned}
 \left( \frac{\mathcal{P}(A, B)}{\mathcal{Q}(A, B)} \right)^2 &= \left( \mathbb{E}_{\pi_*} \left[ \frac{\mathcal{P}(A, B | \pi_*)}{\mathcal{Q}(A, B)} \right] \right)^2 \\
 &= \mathbb{E}_{\tilde{\pi} \perp \pi_*} \prod_{i < j} X_{ij} \quad X_{ij} \triangleq \frac{\mathcal{P}(B_{ij} | A_{\pi_*(i)\pi_*(j)}) \mathcal{P}(B_{ij} | A_{\tilde{\pi}(i)\tilde{\pi}(j)})}{\mathcal{Q}(B_{ij})^2} \\
 &= \mathbb{E}_{\tilde{\pi} \perp \pi_*} \prod_{O \in \mathcal{O}} X_O \quad X_O \triangleq \prod_{(i,j) \in O} X_{ij}
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We will show

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Q}} [X_O] = \frac{1}{1 - \rho^{2|O|}} \tag{1}$$

## Proof of (1)

$$X_{ij} \triangleq L(A_{\pi_*(i)\pi_*(j)}, B_{ij}) L(A_{\tilde{\pi}(i)\tilde{\pi}(j)}, B_{ij}).$$

where for Gaussian model

$$L(a, b) = \frac{P(a, b)}{Q(a, b)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \rho^2}} \exp\left(\frac{-\rho^2 (b^2 + a^2) + 2\rho ab}{2(1 - \rho^2)}\right).$$

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Example:  $\pi_* = \text{id}$ ,  $\tilde{\pi} = \sigma$  as previously. Consider  $O = \{14, 15, 16\}$ :

$$X_O = \underbrace{L(A_{14}, B_{14})L(A_{15}, B_{14})}_{\text{}} \underbrace{L(A_{15}, B_{15})L(A_{16}, B_{15})}_{\text{}} \underbrace{L(A_{16}, B_{16})L(A_{14}, B_{16})}_{\text{}}$$

For an edge orbit  $|O| = k$ , computing  $\mathbb{E}_Q[X_O]$  boils down to

$$\mathbb{E}_Q[X_O] = \mathbb{E} \left[ \prod_{\ell=1}^k L(a_\ell, b_\ell) L(a_\ell, b_{(\ell+1) \bmod k}) \right], \quad a_\ell, b_\ell \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} N(0, 1)$$

# Proof of (1)

Two ways:

- 1 Write  $\mathbb{E}[\exp(x^\top Cx)]$ , where  $x = (a_1, \dots, a_k, b_1, \dots, b_k) \sim N(0, I_{2k})$ . Find MGF of Gaussian quadratic form determined by eigenvalues of  $C$ .
- 2 Slicker way: view  $L$  as a kernel

$$(Lf)(x) \triangleq \mathbb{E}_{Y \sim Q} [L(x, Y)f(Y)] = \mathbb{E}_{(X, Y) \sim P} [f(Y) \mid X = x].$$

and  $L^2 \equiv L \circ L$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left[ \prod_{\ell=1}^k L(a_\ell, b_\ell) L(a_\ell, b_{(\ell+1) \bmod k}) \right] &= \mathbb{E} \left[ \prod_{\ell=1}^k L^2(a_\ell, a_{(\ell+1) \bmod k}) \right] \\ &= \text{tr} \left( L^{2k} \right) = \sum \lambda_i^{2k} \end{aligned}$$

where  $\lambda_i = \rho^i$  ( $L$  is Mehler kernel, diagonalized by Hermite polynomials).

## Second moment via orbit decomposition (2)

Overall, we get

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Q}} \left[ \left( \frac{\mathcal{P}(A, B)}{\mathcal{Q}(A, B)} \right)^2 \right] = \mathbb{E}_{\sigma} \left[ \prod_{k=1}^{\binom{n}{2}} \left( \frac{1}{1 - \rho^{2k}} \right)^{N_k} \right]$$

where

- $\sigma = \pi_*^{-1} \circ \tilde{\pi}$  is a uniform random permutation on  $[n]$
- Cycle length of  $\sigma$ :  $n_1, n_2, \dots$
- Cycle length of  $\sigma^E$ :  $N_1, N_2, \dots$

$$N_1 = \binom{n_1}{2} + n_2, \quad N_2 = \binom{n_2}{2} \times 2 + n_1 n_2 + n_4$$

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- Poisson approximation [Arratia-Tavaré '92]:  $n_k$ 's are approximated independent  $\text{Poi}(\frac{1}{k})$  (we will need their joint MGF)



## Second moment via orbit decomposition (3)

Let  $\tau = \log \frac{1}{1-\rho^2} = \rho^2(1 + o(1))$ . We get

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}_\sigma \left[ \prod_{k=1}^{\binom{n}{2}} \left( \frac{1}{1-\rho^{2k}} \right)^{N_k} \right] &\approx \mathbb{E}_\sigma [\exp(\tau N_1)] \approx \mathbb{E}_\sigma [\exp(\tau n_1^2/2)] \quad (2) \\ &\approx \mathbb{E} [\exp(\tau \text{Poi}(1)^2/2) \mathbf{1}_{\{\text{Poi}(1) \leq n\}}] \\ &= \sum_{\ell=0}^n \frac{\exp(\tau \ell^2/2)}{\ell!} = 1 + o(1) \end{aligned}$$

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Summary: We have shown

$$\rho^2 \leq \frac{(2-\epsilon) \log n}{n} \implies \mathbb{E}_Q \left[ \left( \frac{\mathcal{P}(A, B)}{\mathcal{Q}(A, B)} \right)^2 \right] = 1 + o(1).$$

But we want  $\rho^2 \leq \frac{(4-\epsilon) \log n}{n} \dots$

## Limitation of vanilla second-moment method

It turns out that

$$\rho^2 \geq \frac{(2 + \epsilon) \log n}{n} \implies \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Q}} \left[ \left( \frac{\mathcal{P}(A, B)}{\mathcal{Q}(A, B)} \right)^2 \right] \rightarrow \infty$$

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### Obstruction from short orbits

$$\mathbb{E}_{(A, B) \sim \mathcal{Q}} \left[ \left( \frac{\mathcal{P}(A, B)}{\mathcal{Q}(A, B)} \right)^2 \right] = \mathbb{E}_{\pi \perp \tilde{\pi}} \left[ \prod_{O \in \mathcal{O}} \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Q}} [X_O] \right] \stackrel{\tilde{\pi} = \pi}{\geq} \frac{1}{n!} (1 + \rho^2)^{\binom{n}{2}}$$

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**Atypically large** magnitude of  $\prod_{O \in \mathcal{O}: |O|=k} X_O$  for **short orbits** of length  $k \lesssim \log n \implies$  second-moment blows up

## Truncated second-moment method

Let  $\mathcal{E}$  denote a **typical event under  $\mathcal{P}$** , i.e.,  $\mathcal{P}((A, B, \pi_*) \in \mathcal{E}) = 1 - o(1)$ .

$$\text{Truncated 2nd moment} = \mathbb{E}_{\pi_* \perp \tilde{\pi}} \left[ \mathbb{E}_Q \left[ \prod_{O \in \mathcal{O}} X_O \mathbf{1}_{\{(A, B, \pi) \in \mathcal{E}\}} \mathbf{1}_{\{(A, B, \tilde{\pi}) \in \mathcal{E}\}} \right] \right]$$

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Let's see why.



## Details of truncated second-moment

Goal: bound  $\text{TV}(\mathcal{P}(A, B), \mathcal{Q}(A, B))$  from above.

- Introduce conditional planted model:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{P}'(A, B, \pi) &\triangleq \frac{\mathcal{P}(A, B, \pi) \mathbf{1}_{\{(A, B, \pi) \in \mathcal{E}\}}}{\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{E})} \\ &= (1 + o(1)) \mathcal{P}(A, B, \pi) \mathbf{1}_{\{(A, B, \pi) \in \mathcal{E}\}},\end{aligned}$$

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- Apply second-moment method

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Q}} \left[ \left( \frac{\mathcal{P}'(A, B)}{\mathcal{Q}(A, B)} \right)^2 \right] \\ &= (1 + o(1)) \mathbb{E}_{\pi_* \perp \tilde{\pi}} \left[ \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Q}} \left[ \underbrace{\frac{\mathcal{P}(A, B | \pi)}{\mathcal{Q}(A, B)} \frac{\mathcal{P}(A, B | \tilde{\pi})}{\mathcal{Q}(A, B)}}_{\prod_{O \in \mathcal{O}} X_O} \mathbf{1}_{\{(A, B, \pi) \in \mathcal{E}\}} \mathbf{1}_{\{(A, B, \tilde{\pi}) \in \mathcal{E}\}} \right] \right] \end{aligned}$$

## Truncated second-moment: Gaussian model

Major contribution comes from  $k = 1$  (fixed points):

$$Y \triangleq \prod_{O \in \mathcal{O}: |O|=1} X_O \approx \exp \left( -\rho^2 \binom{n_1}{2} + 2\rho e_{A^{\pi_*} \wedge B}(F) \right)$$

- $F$  is the set of fixed points of  $\sigma \triangleq \pi_*^{-1} \circ \tilde{\pi}$  and  $n_1 = |F|$
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- On this typical (under  $\mathcal{P}$ ) event  $\mathcal{E}$ , when  $|F|$  is large,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Q}} [Y \mathbf{1}_{\mathcal{E}}] &\lesssim e^{-\rho^2 \binom{n_1}{2}} \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Q}} \left[ e^{2\rho e_{A\pi_* \wedge B}(F)} \mathbf{1}_{\{e_{A \wedge B \pi}(F) \leq \rho \binom{n_1}{2}\}} \right] \\ &\approx \exp \left( \frac{\rho^2}{2} \binom{n_1}{2} \right) \quad (\text{Gain a factor of 2 over (2)}) \end{aligned}$$

by truncated MGF

## Truncated second-moment: sparse Erdős-Rényi

Need to consider  $k = \Theta(\log n)$ . It can be shown

- Long orbits:

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Q}} \left[ \prod_{|O|>k} X_O \right] \leq \left(1 + \rho^k\right)^{\frac{n^2}{k}} = 1 + o(1)$$

- Short **incomplete** orbits:

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Q}} [X_O \mid O \not\subset E(A \wedge B^\pi)] \leq 1$$

- Short **complete** orbits:

$$X_O = \left(\frac{1}{p}\right)^{2|O|}, \quad \forall O \subset E(A \wedge B^\pi)$$

Suffices to consider subgraph  $H_k \triangleq \cup_{O:|O|\leq k, O\subset E(A\wedge B^\pi)} O$

## Truncated second-moment: sparse Erdős-Rényi

- If  $nps^2 \leq 1 - \omega(n^{-1/3})$ :

$$\mathcal{E} \triangleq \{A^\pi \wedge B \text{ is a pseudoforest}\}$$

- If  $nps^2 \leq \lambda^* - \epsilon$ :

$$\mathcal{E} \triangleq \{\text{The subgraph density of } A^\pi \wedge B \text{ is smaller than } \gamma(\lambda^*)\}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Q}} \left[ \prod_{O \in \mathcal{O}} X_O \mathbf{1}_{\mathcal{E}} \right] &\leq (1 + o(1)) \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Q}} \left[ \left( \frac{1}{p} \right)^{2e(H_k)} \mathbf{1}_{\{H_k \text{ is admissible}\}} \right] \\ &= (1 + o(1)) \sum_{H \in \mathcal{H}_k} s^{2e(H)} \quad (\text{generating function}) \end{aligned}$$

$\mathcal{H}_k$ : The set of all admissible  $H_k$



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Key remaining challenge: enumerate  $\mathcal{H}_k$  using orbit structure

## Analysis

- Proof of detection thresholds
- Proof of exact recovery thresholds

## Exact recovery: Positive results

- Decompose the difference of objectives via edge orbits

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle A^\pi - A^{\pi^*}, B \rangle \\ &= \sum_{O \in \mathcal{O} \setminus \mathcal{O}_1} \underbrace{\sum_{(i,j) \in O} A_{\pi(i)\pi(j)} B_{ij}}_{X_O} - \sum_{O \in \mathcal{O} \setminus \mathcal{O}_1} \underbrace{\sum_{(i,j) \in O} A_{\pi^*(i)\pi^*(j)} B_{ij}}_{Y_O} \end{aligned}$$

- Apply large deviation analysis:
  - ▶ For  $\pi$  far away from  $\pi^*$ : bound  $\sum_O X_O$  and  $\sum_O Y_O$  separately
  - ▶ For  $\pi$  close to  $\pi^*$ : bound  $\sum_O (X_O - Y_O)$  directly
- The contribution of longer edge orbits can be effectively bounded by that of the 2-edge orbits

$$M_{|O|} \triangleq \mathbb{E} [\exp(tX_O)] \leq M_2^{|O|/2}, \quad \forall |O| \geq 2$$

Computation of  $M_{|O|}$  is similar to (1)

## Exact recovery: Negative results

- Suffices to show MLE fails (WLOG  $\pi_* = \text{id}$ )
- Bottleneck:  $\pi$  is a transposition swapping  $i$  and  $j$ , for which

$$\Delta_{ij} \equiv \langle A^\pi - A^{\pi_*}, B \rangle = - \sum_{k \neq i, j} (A_{ik} - A_{jk}) (B_{ik} - B_{jk})$$

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$$\Delta_{ij} \sim N(-\rho v_{ij}, 2(1 - \rho^2)v_{ij})$$

- Whp, all  $v_{ij}$  concentrates on  $\mathbb{E}[v_{ij}] \approx 2n$ . So  $\mathbb{P}\{\Delta_{ij} > 0\} \approx \exp(-\frac{\rho^2 n}{2})$ .
- Total number of transpositions:  $\binom{n}{2}$ . So  $\rho^2 \leq \frac{(4-\epsilon) \log n}{n} \implies \mathbb{E}[\sum \mathbf{1}_{\{\Delta_{ij} > 0\}}] \rightarrow \infty$ .

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- Since  $\Delta_{ij}$  are not independent, need to compute 2nd moment applying Paley-Zygmund (Chap 1)

## Concluding remarks

		Partial recovery & detection	Almost exact recovery	Exact recovery
$p$	$n^{-o(1)}$	$np s^2 = \frac{2 \log n}{\log(1/p) - 1 + p}$		$\frac{np s^2}{(1 - \sqrt{p})^2 \log n} = 1$
	$n^{-\alpha}$	$np s^2 = \lambda^*$	$np s^2 = \omega(1)$	
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## Reference

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