

On the local density problem for graphs of given odd-girth

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Joint work with Guilherme Oliveira Mota, Christian Reiher and Mathias Schacht

September - 2017

Motivation - Locally dense graphs

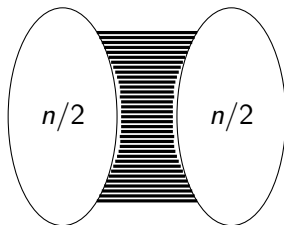
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The maximum number of edges in an n -vertex triangle-free graph is $\lfloor n^2/4 \rfloor$.

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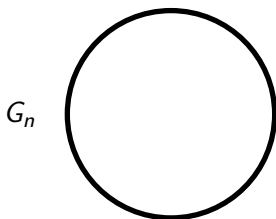


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- **Definition:** A graph G_n is (α, β) -dense if every subset of αn vertices induces more than βn^2 edges.

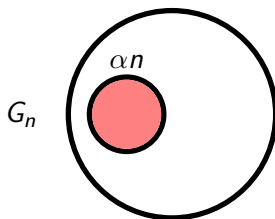
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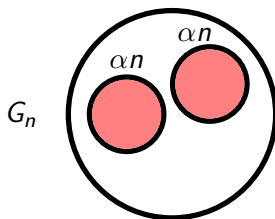
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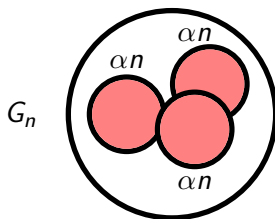
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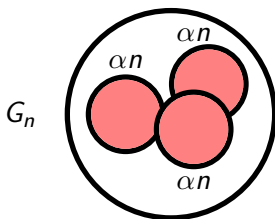
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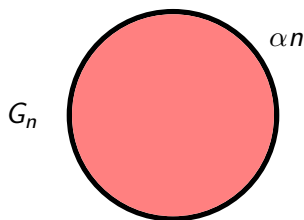
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Given α , what is the minimum β such that every (α, β) -dense graph contains a triangle?
- **Example:** For $\alpha = 1$, $\beta = 1/4$.



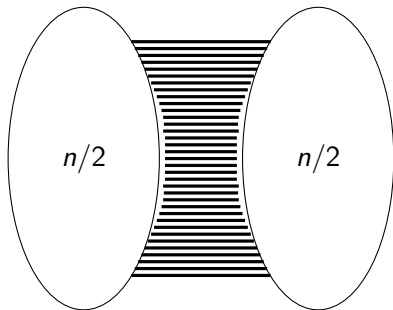
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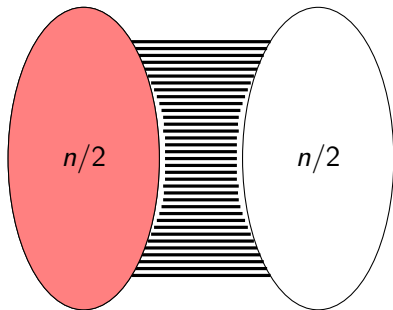
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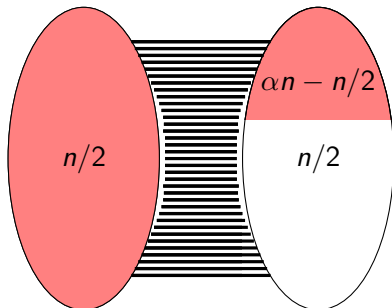
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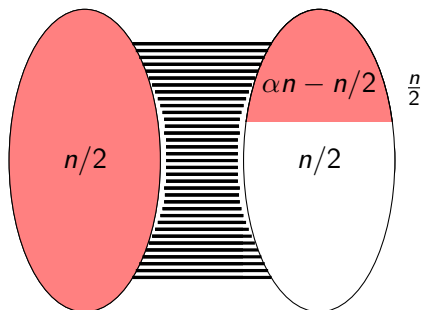
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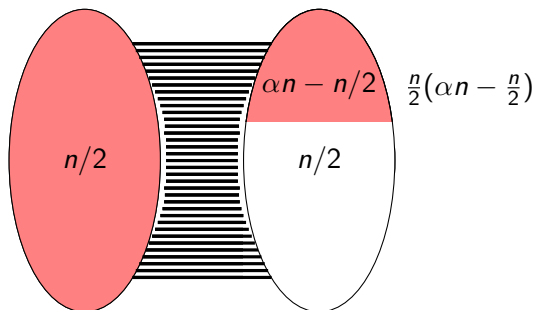
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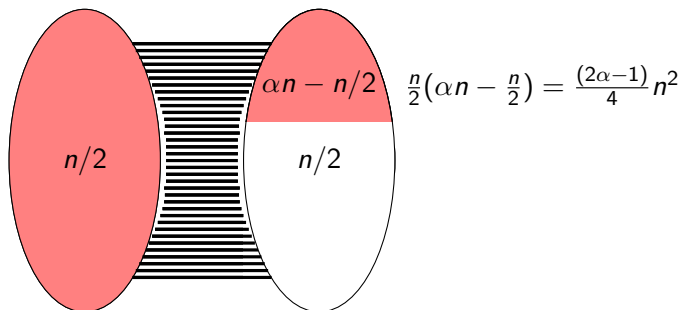
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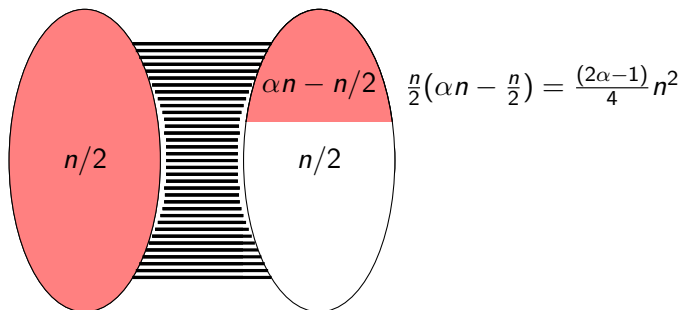
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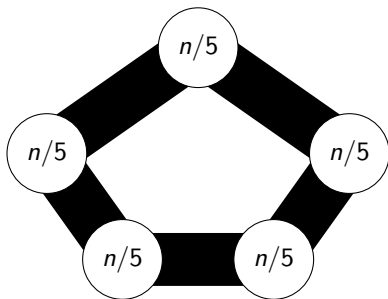


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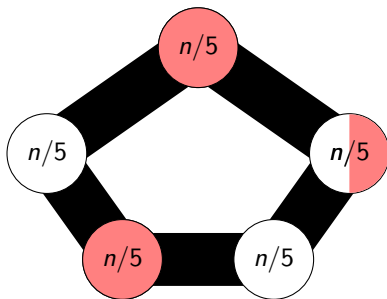


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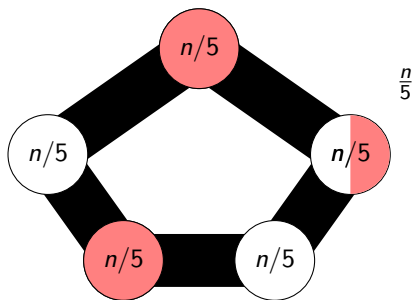


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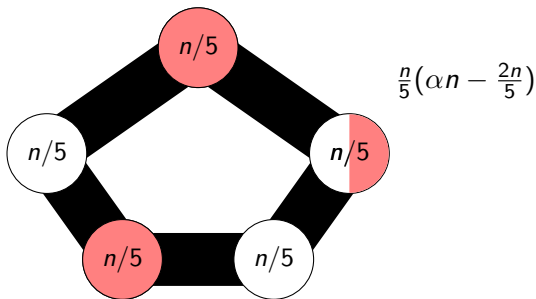


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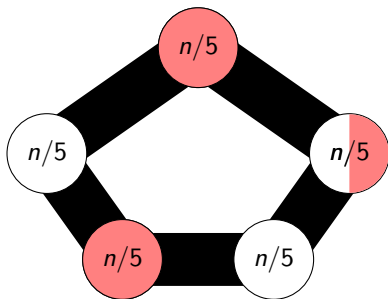


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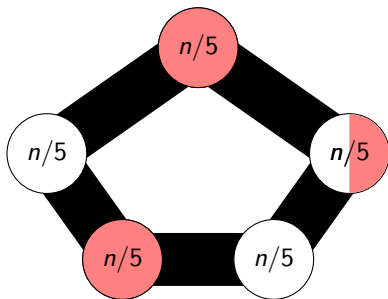
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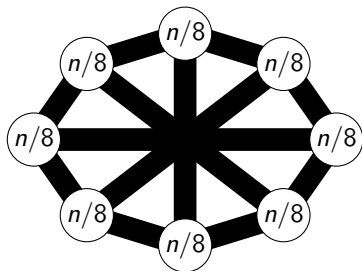
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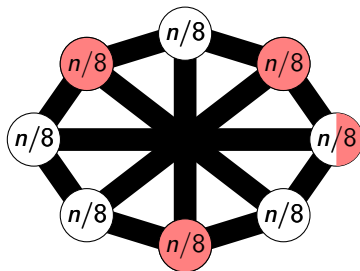
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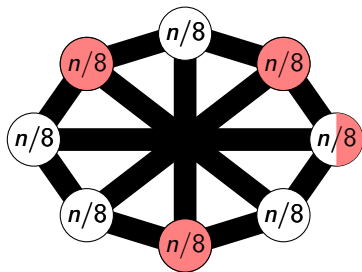
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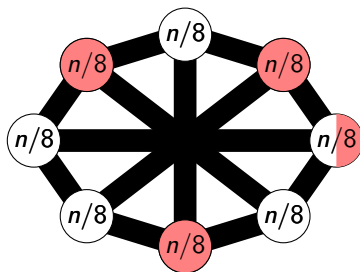
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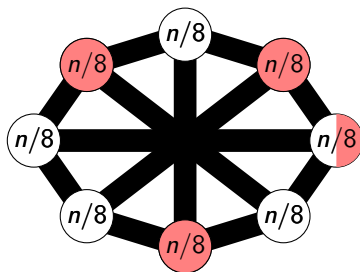
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Conjectures

Conjecture (Erdős 1976)

Let $53/120 \leq \alpha \leq 1$ and let G_n be an n -vertex graph. If n is sufficiently large and G_n is (α, β) -dense with

$$\beta \geq \begin{cases} (2\alpha - 1)/4 & \text{if } 17/30 \leq \alpha \leq 1 \\ (5\alpha - 2)/25 & \text{if } 53/120 \leq \alpha \leq 17/30, \end{cases}$$

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- Interesting case: $\alpha = 1/2$, $\beta \geq 1/50$.

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Stated in the contrapositive...

Conjecture (Erdős 1976)

Every triangle-free graph G_n contains a subset of $\lfloor n/2 \rfloor$ vertices that induces at most $n^2/50$ edges.

Known results

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If G is triangle-free, then G is not $(1/2, 1/36)$ -dense.

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If G_n is triangle-free and $\delta(G_n) > 2n/5$, then

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Theorem (Norin–Yepremian 2015)

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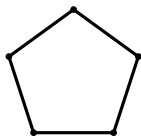
Theorem (B.–Mota–Reiher–Schacht 2017+)

If G_n is triangle-free with $\chi(G_n) \leq 3$ and $\delta(G_n) > n/3$, then G_n is not $(1/2, 1/50)$ -dense.

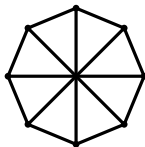
Important structures: Andrásfai graphs



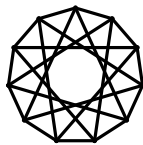
F_1



F_2



F_3



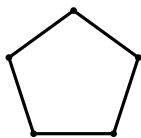
F_4

F_5, F_6, \dots

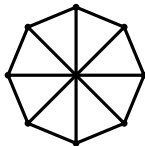
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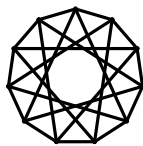
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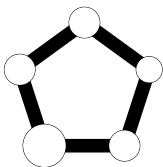
F_5, F_6, \dots

Properties of F_d

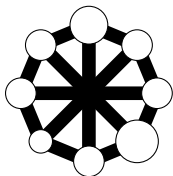
- $3d - 1$ vertices
- Triangle-free
- d -regular
- $\alpha(F_d) = d$

Why are Andrásfai graphs important to the problem?

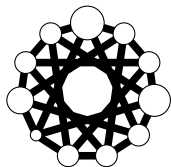
Andrásfai graphs - Blow-ups



F_2



F_3



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F_5, F_6, \dots

Triangle-free graphs with large minimum degree

Theorem (Andrásfai–Erdős–Sós 1974)

If $\delta(G_n) > 2n/5$ and $K_3 \not\subseteq G_n$, then G_n is a subgraph of a blow-up of F_1

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If $\delta(G_n) > 10n/29$ and $K_3 \not\subseteq G_n$, then G_n is a subgraph of a blow-up of F_9 .

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Theorem (Chen–Jin–Koh 1997)

If $\delta(G_n) > ((d+1)/(3d+2))n$, $K_3 \not\subseteq G_n$ and $\chi(G_n) \leq 3$, then G_n is a subgraph of a blow-up of F_d .

Obtaining the main results

Theorem (B.–Mota–Reiher–Schacht 2017+)

If G_n is a subgraph of a blow-up of F_d for some integer $d \geq 1$, then G_n is not $(1/2, 1/50)$ -dense.

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If G_n is triangle-free with $\delta(G_n) > 10n/29$, then G_n is contained in a blow-up of F_9 .

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If G_n is triangle-free with $\delta(G_n) > n/3$ and $\chi(G_n) \leq 3$, then G_n is not $(1/2, 1/50)$ -dense.

Proof for blow-ups of F_3

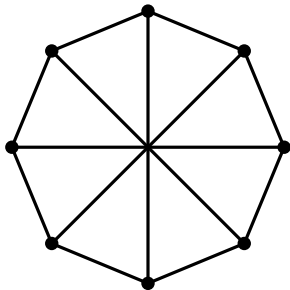
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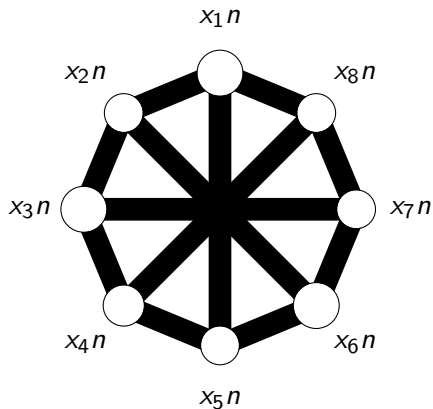
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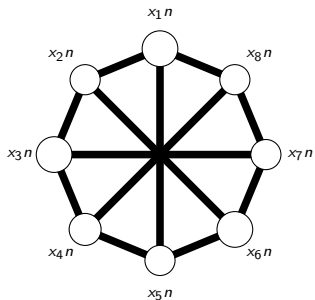
Proof for blow-ups of F_3

Theorem (B.–Mota–Reiher–Schacht 2017+)

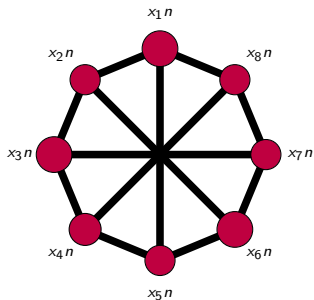
If G_n is a subgraph of a blow-up of F_3 , then G_n is not $(1/2, 1/50)$ -dense.



Proof for blow-ups of F_3

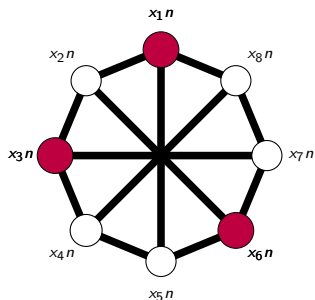


Proof for blow-ups of F_3



$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 + x_6 + x_7 + x_8 = 1.$$

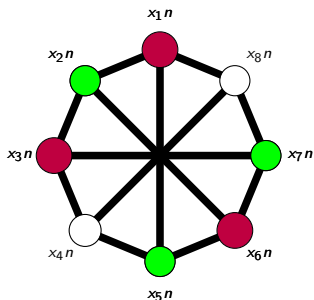
Proof for blow-ups of F_3



$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 + x_6 + x_7 + x_8 = 1.$$

Let $\alpha = x_1 + x_3 + x_6$ be the size of the largest independent set.

Proof for blow-ups of F_3

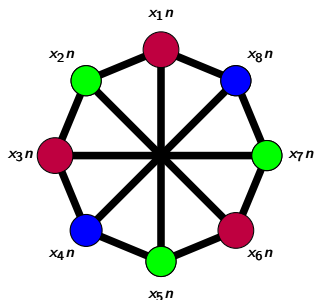


$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 + x_6 + x_7 + x_8 = 1.$$

Let $\alpha = x_1 + x_3 + x_6$ be the size of the largest independent set.

Then, $x_2 + x_5 + x_7 \leq \alpha$.

Proof for blow-ups of F_3



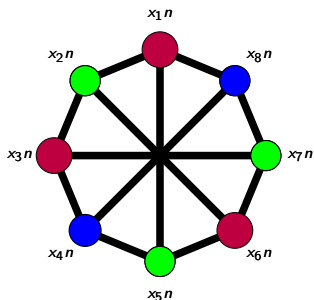
$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 + x_6 + x_7 + x_8 = 1.$$

Let $\alpha = x_1 + x_3 + x_6$ be the size of the largest independent set.

Then, $x_2 + x_5 + x_7 \leq \alpha$. Therefore,

$$1 = x_1 + \dots + x_8$$

Proof for blow-ups of F_3



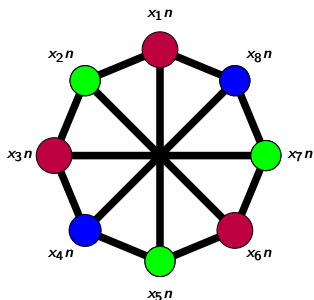
$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 + x_6 + x_7 + x_8 = 1.$$

Let $\alpha = x_1 + x_3 + x_6$ be the size of the largest independent set.

Then, $x_2 + x_5 + x_7 \leq \alpha$. Therefore,

$$1 = x_1 + \dots + x_8 = (x_1 + x_3 + x_6) + (x_2 + x_5 + x_7) + x_4 + x_8$$

Proof for blow-ups of F_3



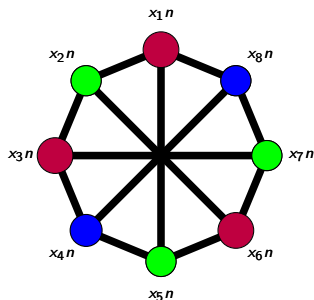
$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 + x_6 + x_7 + x_8 = 1.$$

Let $\alpha = x_1 + x_3 + x_6$ be the size of the largest independent set.

Then, $x_2 + x_5 + x_7 \leq \alpha$. Therefore,

$$1 = x_1 + \dots + x_8 = (x_1 + x_3 + x_6) + (x_2 + x_5 + x_7) + x_4 + x_8 \leq 2\alpha + x_4 + x_8.$$

Proof for blow-ups of F_3



$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 + x_6 + x_7 + x_8 = 1.$$

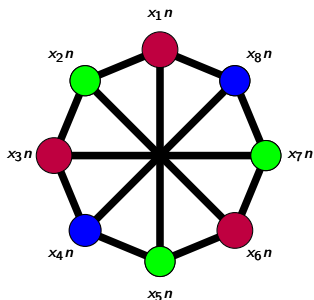
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Suppose $x_4 \geq x_8$.

Proof for blow-ups of F_3



$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 + x_6 + x_7 + x_8 = 1.$$

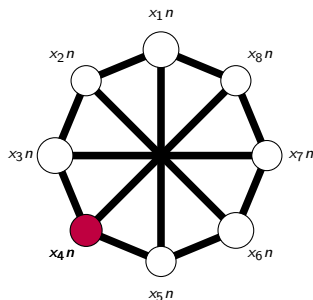
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Proof for blow-ups of F_3



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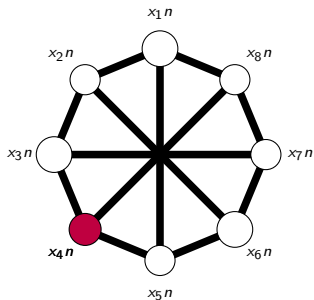
Then, $x_2 + x_5 + x_7 \leq \alpha$. Therefore,

$$1 = x_1 + \dots + x_8 = (x_1 + x_3 + x_6) + (x_2 + x_5 + x_7) + x_4 + x_8 \leq 2\alpha + x_4 + x_8.$$

Suppose $x_4 \geq x_8$.

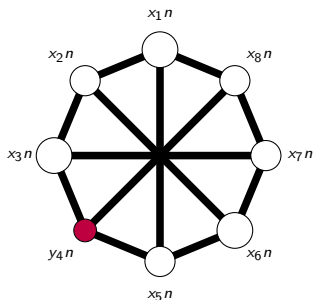
We have $x_4 \geq 1/2 - \alpha$.

Proof for blow-ups of F_3



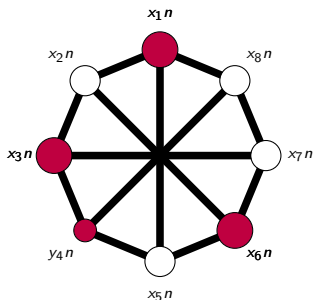
$$x_4 \geq 1/2 - \alpha.$$

Proof for blow-ups of F_3



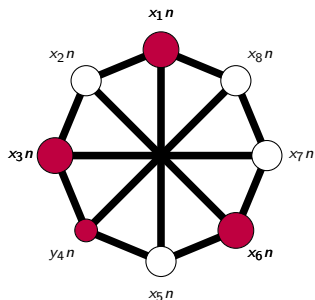
$x_4 \geq 1/2 - \alpha$. Consider $y_4 = 1/2 - \alpha$

Proof for blow-ups of F_3



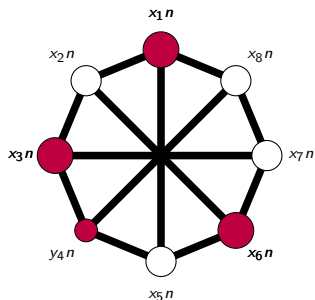
$x_4 \geq 1/2 - \alpha$. Consider $y_4 = 1/2 - \alpha$ and $x_1 + x_3 + x_6$.

Proof for blow-ups of F_3



$x_4 \geq 1/2 - \alpha$. Consider $y_4 = 1/2 - \alpha$ and $x_1 + x_3 + x_6$.
Total of $n/2$ vertices.

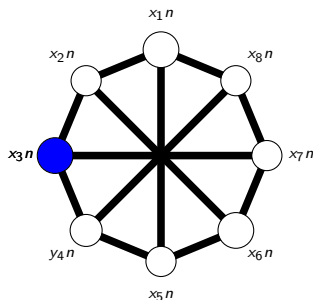
Proof for blow-ups of F_3



$x_4 \geq 1/2 - \alpha$. Consider $y_4 = 1/2 - \alpha$ and $x_1 + x_3 + x_6$.
Total of $n/2$ vertices.

Case 1: $\alpha \leq 2/5$

Proof for blow-ups of F_3

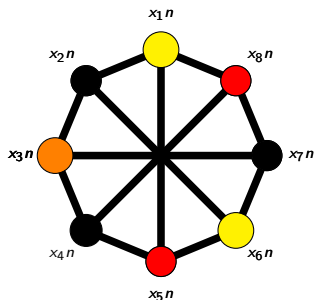


$x_4 \geq 1/2 - \alpha$. Consider $y_4 = 1/2 - \alpha$ and $x_1 + x_3 + x_6$.
Total of $n/2$ vertices.

Case 1: $\alpha \leq 2/5$

$$x_3 + x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 + x_6 + x_7 + x_8 = 1 + x_3.$$

Proof for blow-ups of F_3

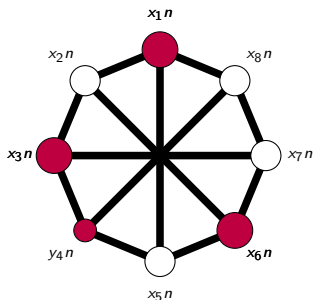


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Proof for blow-ups of F_3



$x_4 \geq 1/2 - \alpha$. Consider $y_4 = 1/2 - \alpha$ and $x_1 + x_3 + x_6$.

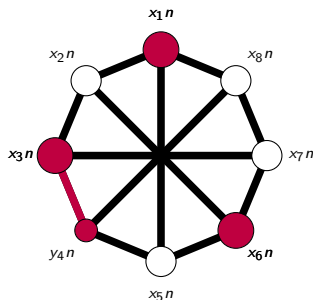
Total of $n/2$ vertices.

Case 1: $\alpha \leq 2/5$

$x_3 + x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 + x_6 + x_7 + x_8 = 1 + x_3$. Therefore,

$3\alpha \geq 1 + x_3$.

Proof for blow-ups of F_3



$x_4 \geq 1/2 - \alpha$. Consider $y_4 = 1/2 - \alpha$ and $x_1 + x_3 + x_6$.

Total of $n/2$ vertices.

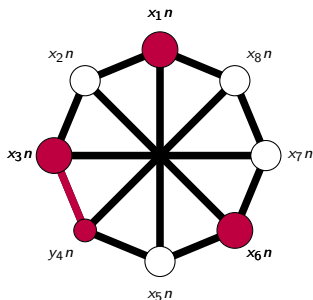
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#edges = $x_3 y_4 n^2$

Proof for blow-ups of F_3



$x_4 \geq 1/2 - \alpha$. Consider $y_4 = 1/2 - \alpha$ and $x_1 + x_3 + x_6$.

Total of $n/2$ vertices.

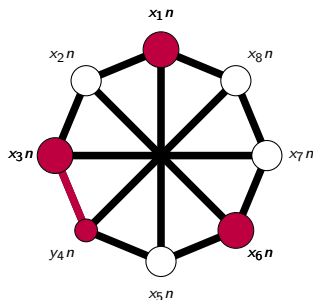
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$\#edges = x_3 y_4 n^2 \leq (3\alpha - 1)(1/2 - \alpha)n^2$

Proof for blow-ups of F_3



$x_4 \geq 1/2 - \alpha$. Consider $y_4 = 1/2 - \alpha$ and $x_1 + x_3 + x_6$.

Total of $n/2$ vertices.

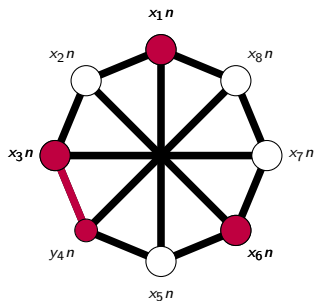
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$\#edges = x_3 y_4 n^2 \leq (3\alpha - 1)(1/2 - \alpha)n^2 \leq n^2/50$.

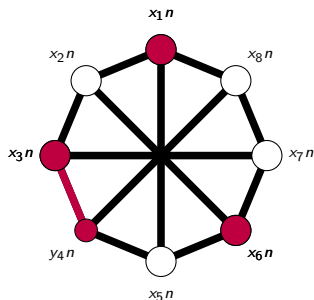
Proof for blow-ups of F_3



$x_4 \geq 1/2 - \alpha$. Consider $y_4 = 1/2 - \alpha$ and $x_1 + x_3 + x_6$.

Case 2: $\alpha > 2/5$

Proof for blow-ups of F_3

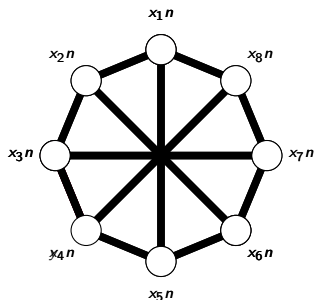


$x_4 \geq 1/2 - \alpha$. Consider $y_4 = 1/2 - \alpha$ and $x_1 + x_3 + x_6$.

Case 2: $\alpha > 2/5$

If $x_3 \leq \alpha/2$, then $x_3 y_4 \leq (\alpha/2)(1/2 - \alpha) \leq 1/50$.

Proof for blow-ups of F_3

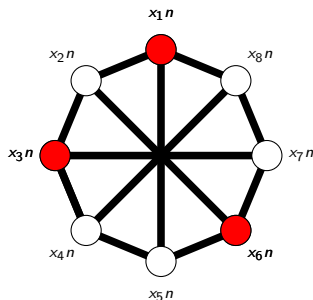


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Proof for blow-ups of F_3



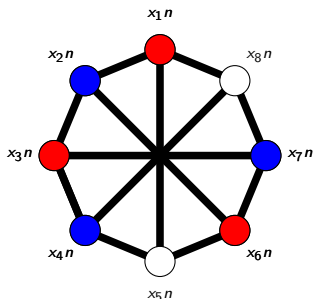
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Since $x_1 + x_3 + x_6 = \alpha$, we have $x_1 + x_6 < \alpha/2$.

Proof for blow-ups of F_3



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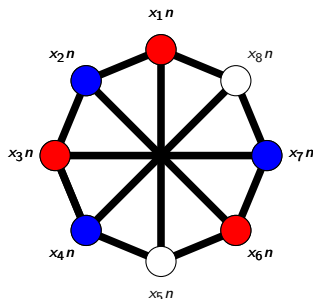
Case 2: $\alpha > 2/5$

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Since $x_1 + x_3 + x_6 = \alpha$, we have $x_1 + x_6 < \alpha/2$. Note that

$x_2 + x_4 + x_7 < 1/2$.

Proof for blow-ups of F_3



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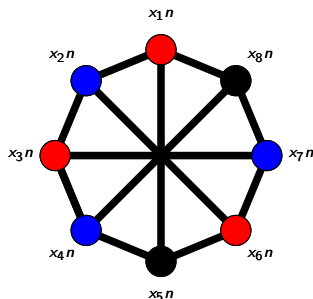
If $x_3 \leq \alpha/2$, then $x_3 y_4 \leq (\alpha/2)(1/2 - \alpha) \leq 1/50$. Thus, $x_3 > \alpha/2$.

Since $x_1 + x_3 + x_6 = \alpha$, we have $x_1 + x_6 < \alpha/2$. Note that

$x_2 + x_4 + x_7 < 1/2$.

$x_5 + x_8 + 1/2 + \alpha \geq x_5 + x_8 + (x_1 + x_3 + x_6) + (x_2 + x_4 + x_7) = 1$

Proof for blow-ups of F_3



$x_4 \geq 1/2 - \alpha$. Consider $y_4 = 1/2 - \alpha$ and $x_1 + x_3 + x_6$.

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If $x_3 \leq \alpha/2$, then $x_3 y_4 \leq (\alpha/2)(1/2 - \alpha) \leq 1/50$. Thus, $x_3 > \alpha/2$.

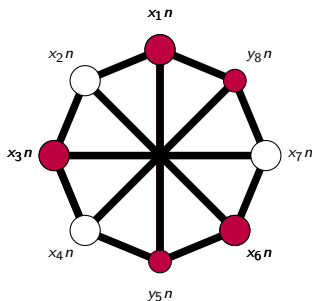
Since $x_1 + x_3 + x_6 = \alpha$, we have $x_1 + x_6 < \alpha/2$. Note that

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$x_5 + x_8 + \mathbf{1/2} + \alpha \geq x_5 + x_8 + (\mathbf{x_1 + x_3 + x_6}) + (\mathbf{x_2 + x_4 + x_7}) = 1$

Therefore, $x_5 + x_8 \geq 1/2 - \alpha$.

Proof for blow-ups of F_3



$x_5 + x_8 \geq 1/2 - \alpha$. Consider $y_5 + y_8 = 1/2 - \alpha$ and $x_1 + x_3 + x_6$.

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If $x_3 \leq \alpha/2$, then $x_3 y_4 \leq (\alpha/2)(1/2 - \alpha) \leq 1/50$. Thus, $x_3 > \alpha/2$.

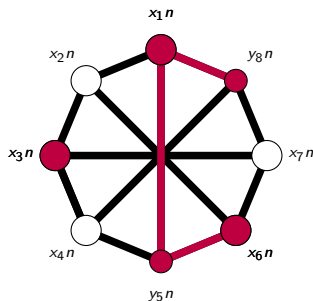
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Proof for blow-ups of F_3



$x_5 + x_8 \geq 1/2 - \alpha$. Consider $y_5 + y_8 = 1/2 - \alpha$ and $x_1 + x_3 + x_6$.

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If $x_3 \leq \alpha/2$, then $x_3 y_4 \leq (\alpha/2)(1/2 - \alpha) \leq 1/50$. Thus, $x_3 > \alpha/2$.

Since $x_1 + x_3 + x_6 = \alpha$, we have $x_1 + x_6 < \alpha/2$. Note that

$x_2 + x_4 + x_7 < 1/2$.

$x_5 + x_8 + 1/2 + \alpha \geq x_5 + x_8 + (x_1 + x_3 + x_6) + (x_2 + x_4 + x_7) = 1$

Therefore, $x_5 + x_8 \geq 1/2 - \alpha$.

Open problems / Next steps

- Prove that if $\delta(G_n) > n/3$ and $K_3 \not\subseteq G_n$, then G_n is not $(1/2, 1/50)$ -dense.

Open problems / Next steps

- Prove that if $\delta(G_n) > n/3$ and $K_3 \not\subseteq G_n$, then G_n is not $(1/2, 1/50)$ -dense.
- Extend the result for (α, β) -dense graphs with general α and β .

Thanks!

Thanks for your attention!