

## Lecture 6: More Bounded Degree Graph and Dense Graph Intro

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## 1 Overview

In the previous lecture, we introduced algorithms on bounded degree graphs. These graphs mainly depends on two techniques:

- (1) Random sampling on the vertices or a vertex's neighbors
- (2) Breadth First Search (BFS)

In today's lecture, we are going to talk about more algorithms on bounded degree graphs and an introduction to dense graphs and its model.

## 2 Cycle-freeness testing in Bounded Degree Graph

Cycle-freeness of a graph is equivalent to it being a forest of trees. The following is a well-known fact about forests.

**Fact 6.1** *For a graph  $G$  with  $n$  vertices and  $k$  connected components,  $G$  is a cycle-free graph if and only if  $G$  has  $m = n - k$  edges.*

From Fact 6.1, it implies that "If  $G$  is not cycle-free, then  $G$  has  $m > n - k$  edges." Using this statement, we come up with an  $\epsilon$ -far cycle-freeness testing algorithm, which estimates # of edges ( $m$ ) and # of connected components ( $k$ ).

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**Algorithm 6.2:**  $\epsilon$ -far from cycle-free graph testing via estimation of  $m$  and  $k$

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**Input** : Bounded degree graph  $G$  with  $n$  vertices and degree upper-bound of  $d$

**Output:** Determining whether  $G$  is cycle-free

1.  $\tilde{m} \leftarrow$  Estimate  $m$  to within additive error of  $\frac{\epsilon dn}{100}$  using  $O\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon^2}\right)$  queries.
  2.  $\tilde{k} \leftarrow$  Estimate  $k$  to within additive error of  $\frac{\epsilon dn}{100}$  using  $O\left(\frac{1}{d^2 \epsilon^3}\right)$  queries.
  3. Accept(Determine that  $G$  is cycle-free) if and only if  $\tilde{m} + \tilde{k} \leq n + \frac{\epsilon dn}{50}$
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**Note:** To estimate  $m$ , you estimate the number of non-empty cells in the  $n \times d$  matrix (representation of the graph). The query complexity  $O\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon^2}\right)$  can be derived using Hoeffding's Inequality with additive error  $\epsilon dn$ .

**Note:** Algorithm 6.2 gives  $O\left(\frac{1}{d^2 \epsilon^3}\right)$  time and query complexity.

To analyze Algorithm 6.2, We then consider the definition of  $\epsilon$ -farness from cycle-freeness.

**Proposition 6.3** *If a graph  $G$  with  $n$  vertices has  $k$  connected components and is  $\epsilon$ -far from being cycle-free, then  $m \geq n - k + \frac{\epsilon dn}{2}$ .*

*Proof.* Notion of  $\epsilon$ -far from cycle-free meaning it needs to change at least  $\frac{\epsilon dn}{2}$  edges to reach cycle-freeness. From Fact 6.1, it follows that  $m \geq n - k + \frac{\epsilon dn}{2}$ .  $\square$

The structural property (Completeness and Soundness) of this algorithm then follows from Fact 6.1 and Proposition 6.3.

**Note:** This algorithm is a 2-sided error algorithm. For 1-sided error, there is a lower bound of  $\Omega(\sqrt{n})$

### 3 Subgraph-freeness testing in Bounded Degree Graph

**Definition 6.4** ( $H$ -freeness) Let  $H$  be a fixed graph. A graph  $G$  is  $H$ -free if no subgraph of  $G$  is isomorphic to  $H$ .

**Definition 6.5** (Radius and Center of  $H$ ) Let the radius of a graph  $H$  (denoted by  $rd(H)$ ) be the minimum  $r$  such that there exists some  $v \in H$  such that for any  $u \in H$ ,  $d(u, v) \leq r$  ( $d$  denoting the distance from  $u$  to  $v$ ). Here, we call such  $v$  as a center of  $H$ . (Note:  $v$  might not be unique.)

Then, with the notion of center and radius, we construct the following algorithm.

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**Algorithm 6.6:**  $\epsilon$ -far from  $H$ -free testing

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**Input** : Bounded degree graph  $G$  with  $n$  vertices and degree upper-bound of  $d$ ,  
and a fixed graph  $H$

**Output:** Determining whether  $G$  is  $H$ -free

Repeat for  $O\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)$  times:

1. Pick a random vertex  $u$ . (Pretending that  $u$  is the center)
  2. Run BFS for radius  $rd(H)$  from  $u$ .  
(**Note:** The size of the subgraph from this *BFS* is bounded by  $d^{O(rd(H))}$ )
  3. Check if the subgraph from the BFS is  $H$ -free
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It follows that Algorithm 6.6 has query and time complexity of  $O\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} d^{O(rd(H))}\right)$ . Next, we show the correctness of the algorithm.

The completeness of the algorithm is trivial.

**Proposition 6.7** (Completeness of Algorithm 6.6) *Algorithm 6.6 accepts all  $H$ -free graphs.*

To prove soundness, we use the following definition of the notion of a detecting vertex.

**Definition 6.8** (Detecting vertex) Vertex  $v$  is *detecting* if it is a center of a copy of  $H$  in  $G$ . Meaning, if we pick *detecting* vertex  $v$ , then we will find always  $H$  as a subgraph of the BFS subgraph.

**Proposition 6.9** *If  $G$  is  $\epsilon$ -far from  $H$ -free, then there are at least  $\frac{\epsilon n}{2}$  detecting vertices.*

*Proof.* Suppose we have fewer than  $\frac{\epsilon n}{2}$  detecting vertices, we can remove all edges incident to those vertices with fewer than  $\epsilon dn$  changes in the graph representation, which contradicts the notion of  $\epsilon$ -farness  $\square$

**Proposition 6.10** (Soundness of Algorithm 6.6) *Algorithm 6.6 rejects an  $\epsilon$ -far from  $H$ -free with constant probability  $\frac{2}{3}$ .*

*Proof.* It follows from Proposition 6.9 that the probability of sampling a vertex to be a detecting vertex is at least  $\frac{\epsilon}{2} = O(\epsilon)$ . Then, sampling  $O\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)$  random vertices,

$$\mathbb{P}[\text{Algorithm 6.6 failing}] \leq (1 - O(\epsilon))^{O\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)} \leq e^{-O\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)O(\epsilon)} = e^{-O(1)} \leq \frac{1}{3}$$

□

## 4 Bipartiteness testing in Bounded Degree Graph

**Definition** (Bipartite) A graph  $G$  is bipartite if vertices  $G$  can be partitioned into two disjoint sets  $U, V$  such that  $U \cup V = G$  and  $E_G$  (the set of edges of  $G$ ) is a subset of  $U \times V$

**Fact 6.11** *A graph  $G$  is bipartite if and only if  $G$  has no odd-length cycles.*

In this case, if we construct an algorithm using BFS it might not work since graphs can have very long cycles where *BFS* would have to explore  $O(d^{\text{cycle length}})$  vertices which grows exponentially.

**Idea** Instead of exploring radius  $r$  neighborhood, take random walks of length  $O(\text{polylog}(n))$ .

**Definition 6.12** (Random Walk) A random walk of length  $l$  starting at  $u$  is a path  $(u, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_l)$  such that  $v_{i+1} \leftarrow \text{Unif}(\mathcal{N}(v_i))$ .

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**Algorithm 6.13:**  $\epsilon$ -far from bipartite testing

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**Input** : Bounded degree graph  $G$  with  $n$  vertices and degree upper-bound of  $d$

**Output:** Determining whether  $G$  is bipartite

Repeat for  $O\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)$  times:

1. Uniformly pick a random vertex  $u$ .
  2. Try to find odd length cycle through  $u$ .
    - (i) Perform  $m = \sqrt{n} \text{poly}\left(\frac{\log n}{\epsilon}\right)$  random walks of length  $l = \text{poly}\left(\frac{\log n}{\epsilon}\right)$ .
    - (ii) Record the explored vertices into two sets  $R_0, R_1$  being the set of vertices reachable from  $u$  in even, odd number of steps respectively.
    - (iii) Reject if  $R_0 \cap R_1 \neq \emptyset$
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Algorithm 6.13 has query and time complexity of  $O\left(\sqrt{n} \text{poly}\left(\frac{\log n}{\epsilon}\right) \log d\right)$ .

**Remark**  $\log d$  term is from binary-searching to find the degree of a vertex  $v$ . Why?: Because we don't know the degree but only knows that it is bounded by  $d$ . Also, we need the degree to draw the neighbors uniformly.

**Proposition 6.14** (Completeness of Algorithm 6.13) *Algorithm 6.13 accepts all bipartite graphs.*

The completeness proposition follows from the definition of bipartite graph.

**Theorem 6.15** (Soundness of Algorithm 6.13 (Hard)) *Algorithm 6.13 rejects a graph that is  $\epsilon$ -far from bipartiteness with probability  $\geq \frac{1}{3}$ .*

**Note:** The proof of Theorem 6.15 can be found in this at <http://www.eng.tau.ac.il/~danar/Public-pdf/bip.pdf>).

## 5 Dense Graph

### 5.1 Model

Last lecture, we mentioned about models/representation of the graphs and we said that with dense graphs it is better to use adjacency matrix. So, we define  $G$  as an  $n \times n$  matrix with entry  $(u, v) = 1$  if and only if  $(u, v)$  is an edge in  $G$ . (**Note:** Here we don't have weights on edges.) Thus, we define the query

$$\text{query}(u, v) = G_{u,v}$$

Then, the input size of the graph is  $n^2$ . Accordingly, we define the distance notion by

$$d(G, G') = \frac{1}{n^2} (\# \text{ of distinct bits in } G \text{ and } G')$$

Thus,  $\epsilon$ -farness means  $O(\epsilon n^2)$  changes on edges.

**Note:** This large gap of  $O(\epsilon n^2)$  makes the model not always applicable on some problems.

### 5.2 Hamiltonian Cycles

Hamiltonian cycle detection problem is one of the examples that this model cannot give a good algorithm or bounds on.

**Definition 6.16** (Hamiltonian Cycle) A hamiltonian cycle on graph  $G$  is a cycle that contains all the vertices in  $G$  exactly once.

In general case (without notion of  $\epsilon$ -farness), detecting if a graph has any hamiltonian cycle is an NP-Hard problem. However, for  $\epsilon$ -far property testing, the algorithm just accepts anything. This works because of the following proposition.

**Proposition 6.17** *No graph is  $\epsilon$ -far from having a Hamiltonian cycle for any  $\epsilon = \omega\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose there is such a graph that is  $\epsilon$ -far from Hamiltonian cycle graph with  $\epsilon = \omega\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)$  However, you can create a Hamiltonian cycle with at most  $2n$  changes, resulting in contradiction.  $\square$

There are also other example problems that are trivialized by this model:

- (a) Connectedness testing
- (b) Test whether  $G$  contains some sparse subgraph  $H$ .
- (c) Testing other sparse properties.

## 6 Biclique testing in Dense Graph

**Definition 6.18** (Biclique/Complete Bipartite Graph) A graph  $G = (V, E)$  is a biclique if there exists a bipartition  $(V_1, V_2)$  of  $V$  such that  $E \cong V_1 \times V_2$ .

**Proposition 6.19** Suppose a graph  $G$  is  $\epsilon$ -far from being a biclique. Then, for any bipartition  $(V_1, V_2)$  of  $V$ , there exists at least  $\epsilon n^2/2$  pairs of vertices  $(u, v)$  that violates  $(V_1, V_2)$  i.e.

1. If  $u, v$  are in the same set, then  $(u, v)$  is an edge in  $G$ .
2. If  $u, v$  are not in the same set, then  $(u, v)$  is not an edge in  $G$ .

*Proof.* Suppose for contradiction that there exists some bipartition  $(V_1, V_2)$  with less than  $\epsilon n^2/2$  violating pairs. Therefore, we can flip the bits of these pairs which will take less than  $\epsilon n^2$  (edges are bidirectional) to change  $G$  to a biclique. Thus,  $G$  is less than  $\epsilon$ -far from biclique, contradiction.  $\square$

Using this proposition, we construct an algorithm.

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**Algorithm 6.20:**  $\epsilon$ -far from biclique testing

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**Input :** Dense graph  $G$  as adjacency matrix

**Output:** Determining whether  $G$  is biclique

Repeat for  $O\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)$  times:

1. Pick a random vertex  $u$ .
  2. Pick a random pair  $v, w$ .
  3. Check if  $\{u, v, w\}$  is a biclique. Reject if not.
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**Note:**  $\{u, v, w\}$  is a biclique means that there are two possible cases for them:

1. They form a line graph of length 2. (At least one of them not in the same partition as  $u$ )
2. They form a graph without edges. (All are in the same partition as  $u$ )

**Proposition 6.21** (Completeness of Algorithm 6.20) *Algorithm 6.13 accepts all bicliques.*

**Proposition 6.22** (Soundness of Algorithm 6.20) *A single iteration of Algorithm 6.20 rejects a graph  $G$  which is  $\epsilon$ -far from biclique with probability  $\geq O(\epsilon)$ .*

*Proof.* After the algorithm fixes  $u$ , we can consider the bipartition

$$(\mathcal{N}(u), V_G \setminus \mathcal{N}(u) \cup \{u\})$$

From Proposition 6.19, sampling a violating pair have

$$\mathbb{P}[\text{Algorithm 6.20 rejects}] = \mathbb{P}[(v, w) \text{ is a violating pair}] \geq \frac{\epsilon n^2}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{n^2} = \frac{\epsilon}{2} = O(\epsilon)$$

$\square$

From Proposition 6.22, with  $O\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)$  iterations, the success probability will be a constant  $\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)$ .

**Note:** Here we use a proving technique that fixing/forcing the structure of the problem, and then, we check for the violation, which we will also see in the next lecture.