

# 1.

## Introduction

### 1.1. Even/Odd Rules for Clubs

#### Even Rule

- { (1) Every student club has even # students.
- { (2) Every pair of clubs must share even # students.
- (3) No 2 clubs have identical membership.

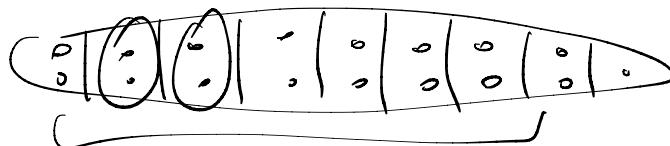
$A_1, A_2, \dots, A_m$ : subsets of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$

(1)  $\Rightarrow |A_i|$  is even for all  $i$

(2)  $\Rightarrow |A_i \cap A_j|$  is even for all  $i, j$

(3)  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_m$  are distinct.

Q: How many student clubs can students form?



It is possible to create  $2^{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor}$  clubs following the even rule.

## Odd Rule

- { (1) Every student club has **odd** # students.
- { (2) Every pair of clubs must share even# students.

$$A_1, A_2, \dots, A_m \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$$

Q (A<sub>11</sub>) odd  
 Q (A<sub>i</sub> ∩ A<sub>j</sub>) even  
 How big can m be?

## Examples

①  $n$  clubs.

Students	clubs			$A_i = \{i^{\text{th}} \text{ student}\}$
	1	1	1	
1	1	1	0	1
1	1	1	1	0
0	1	1	1	1
1	0	1	1	1
1	1	0	1	1

$\xrightarrow{\quad}$   
 $\downarrow$

②

A: Symmetric  $\frac{n}{2} \times \frac{n}{2}$  matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} A+I & A \\ A & A+I \end{pmatrix}$$

A: Symmetric  $\frac{n}{2} \times \frac{n}{2}$  matrix

Thm (Odd rule)

With  $n$  students, no more than  $n$  clubs can be formed under the odd rule.

In other words,

$$\text{if } A_1, A_2, \dots, A_m \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, n\} \\ \begin{cases} |A_i| \text{ odd} & \text{for all } i \\ |A_i \cap A_j| \text{ even} & \text{for all } i \neq j \end{cases}$$

then  $m \leq n$ .

Proof.  
1<sup>st</sup> proof:

$$\text{let } v_i = \begin{pmatrix} v_{i1} \\ v_{i2} \\ \vdots \\ v_{in} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{F}_2^n$$

$\mathbb{F}_2$  field  
w/  $\{0, 1\}$

where

$$v_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } j \in A_i \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$v_i \cdot v_j = \sum_k v_{ik} v_{jk} = |A_i \cap A_j|$$

$$= \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i=j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$\mathbb{F}_2$

Claim:  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  is linearly independent.

$$\text{Suppose not. } \sum c_i v_i \neq 0$$

$$0 = (\sum c_i v_i) \cdot v_j = \sum_i c_i v_i \cdot v_j = c_j$$

$$\Rightarrow c_j = 0 \text{ for all } j.$$

$v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m \in \mathbb{F}_2^n$  ← n-dimensional vector space

2<sup>nd</sup> proof:  $\Rightarrow m \leq n$

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ \vdots \\ v_m \end{pmatrix} = \underbrace{\qquad\qquad\qquad}_{\text{columns}} \left( \begin{array}{c} m_{1j} \\ \vdots \\ m_{ij} \\ \vdots \\ m_{mj} \end{array} \right)$$

be an  $m \times n$  matrix over  $\mathbb{F}_2$

$$A = M^T M = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} v_1^T \\ v_2^T \\ \vdots \\ v_m^T \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{columns}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} v_1 & v_2 & \cdots & v_m \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{columns}} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} v_i^T v_j \end{pmatrix}}_{U_i \cdot U_j} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{m \times m \text{ identity matrix}}$$

## Fact

$$\Rightarrow \text{rk}(AB) \leq \text{rk}(B)$$

$$r = \text{rk}(M^T M) \leq \text{rk}(M) \leq \# \text{ rows of } M = n$$

$\therefore r \leq n$

Then (Even rule)

If with  $n$  students, no more than  $2^{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor}$  clubs can be formed under the even rule.

If  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_m \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$

:  $|A_i|$  even for all  $i$

:  $|A_i \cap A_j|$  even for all  $i, j$

:  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_m$  are distinct

then

$$m \leq 2^{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor}$$

Proof.

let  $v_i = \begin{pmatrix} v_{i1} \\ v_{i2} \\ \vdots \\ v_{in} \end{pmatrix} \in F_2^n$

$$v_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } j \in A_i \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

let  $U = \langle v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m \rangle \subseteq F_2^n$

$$v_i \cdot v_j = 0 \quad \text{for all } i, j$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{for all } x, y \in U, \quad x \cdot y = 0$$

$$((\sum a_i v_i) \circ (\sum b_i v_i)) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow U \subseteq U^\perp = \{y \in F_2^n : x \cdot y = 0 \text{ for all } x \in U\}$$

\*

$$\dim U + \dim(U^\perp) = \dim(F_2^n)$$

↙

$$2 \dim U$$

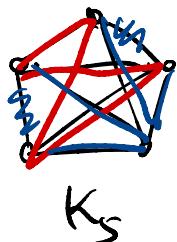
$$\Rightarrow \dim U \leq \frac{1}{2} \dim(F_2^n) = \frac{n}{2}$$

$$\dim U \leq \left[ \frac{n}{2} \right]$$

# vectors in  $U \leq 2^{\left[ \frac{n}{2} \right]}$

$$v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m \in U$$
$$\Rightarrow m \leq 2^{\left[ \frac{n}{2} \right]}$$

## 1.2. Partitioning $K_n$ into complete bipartite graphs



Partition  $E(K_5)$  into the edges of complete bipartite graphs?

Diagram illustrating the partitioning of  $E(K_5)$  into edge sets of complete bipartite graphs. The top row shows three circles representing sets  $A_i$  and  $B_i$ . The bottom row shows three bipartite graphs labeled  $K_{2,2}$ ,  $K_{1,4}$ , and  $K_{1,1}$ . Arrows point from the top circles to the bottom graphs.

Then (Graham, Pollack 1971)

The edge set  $E(K_n)$  of the complete graph cannot be partitioned into less than  $n-1$  copies of the edge sets of complete bipartite graphs.

Proof. (Tverberg 1982)

Suppose that  $E(K_n)$  can be partitioned into  $t$  edge sets of complete bipartite graphs

$$= \bigcup_{i=1}^t (A_i, B_i)$$

$$A_i, B_i \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$$

$$A_i \cap B_i = \emptyset$$

$$x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$$

$$\text{Let } S(x) = \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} x_i x_j = \sum_{i=1}^t \left( \left( \sum_{j \in A_i} x_j \right) \left( \sum_{k \in B_i} x_k \right) \right)$$

$$(\sum x_i)^2 = \sum x_i^2 + 2 S(x)$$

Consider the following equations:

$$(*) \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \sum_{j \in A_i} x_j = 0 \quad \text{for all } 1 \leq i \leq t \\ \sum_{i=1}^t x_i = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

$t+1$  linear homogeneous equations.

$t+1 < n$   $\Rightarrow$  There exists a non-zero solution  $x$  satisfying all  $(*)$ .

$$\Rightarrow (\sum x_i)^2 = 0, \quad S(x) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum x_i^2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x_i = 0 \text{ for all } i.$$

Contradiction.



(Lindström's theorem)

1.3. Finding two collections of the same union / intersections

Then, let  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_{n+1} \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ .  
 $\Rightarrow$  There exist subsets  $I, J$  of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n+1\}$   
such that  
 $I \cup J \neq \emptyset, I \cap J = \emptyset, \bigcup_{i \in I} A_i = \bigcup_{j \in J} A_j$ .

Proof (Lindström, Smets/90)

Let  $v_I = \begin{pmatrix} v_{1I} \\ \vdots \\ v_{nI} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^n$        $v_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } j \in A_i \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$ .

$n+1$  vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$

$\Rightarrow$  There exists a non-trivial linear combination  
 $\sum_{i=1}^{n+1} \alpha_i v_I = 0$

Let  $I = \{i : \alpha_i > 0\}, J = \{i : \alpha_i < 0\}$ .  
 $I \cap J = \emptyset, I \cup J \neq \emptyset$ .

$$\sum_{i \in I} \alpha_i v_i = \sum_{j \in J} (-\alpha_j) v_j$$

$$\Rightarrow \bigcup_{i \in I} A_i = \bigcup_{j \in J} A_j$$

Thm (Lindström 1993)

Let  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_{n+2} \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$   
 $\Rightarrow$  There exist subsets  $I, J$  of  $\{1, \dots, n+2\}$   
 $I \cap J = \emptyset, I \cup J \neq \emptyset.$

$$\bigcup_{i \in I} A_i = \bigcup_{j \in J} A_j, \quad \bigcap_{i \in I} A_i = \bigcap_{j \in J} A_j.$$

Proof.

$$\text{Let } v_i = \begin{pmatrix} v_{i1} \\ v_{i2} \\ \vdots \\ v_{in} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$$

$v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n+2} \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$   
 $\Rightarrow$  There exists a nontrivial linear combination  
 $\sum_{i=1}^{n+2} \alpha_i v_i = 0$

$$I = \{i : \alpha_i > 0\}, \quad J = \{i : \alpha_i < 0\}$$

$$\bigcup_{i \in I} A_i = \bigcup_{j \in J} A_j$$

$$\left\{ \sum_{i \in I} \alpha_i v_i = \sum_{j \in J} (-\alpha_j) v_j \right.$$

$$\left. \sum_{i \in I} \alpha_i = -\sum_{j \in J} \alpha_j \right)$$

$$e = \left( \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{array} \right)$$

$$\sum_{i \in I} \alpha_i (e - v_i) = -\sum_{j \in J} \alpha_j (e - v_j)$$

$$\bigcup_{i \in I} A_i^c = \bigcup_{j \in J} A_j^c \Rightarrow \bigcap_{i \in I} A_i = \bigcap_{j \in J} A_j$$

□

# 1.4 Two Distance Sets

$$X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \quad |X|=m$$

Q1: How large can  $|X|$  be, if  $x \neq y \in X$ ,  $\|x-y\|=1$  ?



We may assume  $a_m = 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \|a_i\| &= 1 && \text{for all } 1 \leq i \leq m-1, \\ \|a_i - a_j\| &= 1 && \text{for all } 1 \leq i < j \leq m-1 \end{aligned}$$

↳  $(a_i - a_j) \cdot (a_i - a_j) = 1$

$$\underline{a_i \cdot a_i + a_j \cdot a_j - 2a_i \cdot a_j = 1}$$

$$\therefore a_i \cdot a_j = \frac{1}{2}$$

Construct a matrix

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & \cdots & a_{m-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A = M^T M = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2} & & \\ \frac{1}{2} & 1 & \frac{1}{2} & \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 1 & \ddots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & \cdots & 1 & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}}_{m-1} \quad \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} a_1^T \\ a_2^T \\ \vdots \\ a_{m-1}^T \end{pmatrix}}_{m-1} \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & \cdots & a_{m-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{rank}(A) = m-1 \leq \text{rank } M \leq \begin{matrix} \# \text{rows of } M \\ = n \end{matrix}$$

$$\therefore m-1 \leq n . \quad \boxed{m \leq n+1}$$

Q2: What if  $\|x-y\|$  takes  $\geq$  values?

$x \neq y, x, y \in X$   
 "two-distance set"

Thm (Larman, Rogers, Seidel 1977)

$$X = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$\|a_i - a_j\| \in \{d_1, d_2\} \text{ for all } i \neq j$$

$$\Rightarrow m \leq \binom{n+2}{2} + n + 1$$

Prof. For  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , define, for all  $i \in \{1, \dots, m\}$

$$f_i(x) = (\|x - a_i\|^2 - d_1^2)(\|x - a_i\|^2 - d_2^2)$$

$f_1, f_2, \dots, f_m$  are polynomials  
 with  $n$  variables  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ .

$$\begin{cases} f_i(a_i) = d_1^2 d_2^2 \\ f_i(a_j) = 0 \end{cases}$$

$\Rightarrow f_1, f_2, \dots, f_m$  are linearly independent,  
 $m \leq \dim$  of a subspace of polynomials  
 containing all of  $f_1, \dots, f_m$ .

$$f_i(x) = \left( \sum_{j=1}^n (x_j - a_{ij})^2 - d_i^2 \right) \left( \sum (x_j - a_{ij})^2 - d_2^2 \right)$$

$$= \left( \sum x_j^2 - 2 \sum a_{ij} x_j + \sum a_{ij}^2 - d_i^2 \right)$$

$$\quad \left( \sum x_j^2 - 2 \sum a_{ij} x_j + \sum a_{ij}^2 - d_2^2 \right)$$

$$\frac{\left(\sum_{j=1}^n x_j\right)^2}{1 \text{ poly}}, \quad \frac{\left(\sum_{j=1}^n x_j^2\right) x_i}{n \text{ poly}}, \quad x_i x_j, \quad x_i, \quad 1$$

$$\frac{(n)}{2} + n \quad n, \quad 1$$

$f_1, f_2, \dots, f_m$  are contained in the span  
of the above  $1 + n + \binom{n}{2} + n + n + 1$  polynomials.

$$\Rightarrow m \leq \overbrace{\quad}^{1 + n + \binom{n}{2} + n + n + 1}$$

$$= \boxed{\binom{n}{2}} + n + (n+1) + n+1$$

$$= \binom{n+2}{2} + n+1.$$

Not tight.

□

Then Blokhuis (1984)

$$X = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$$

$\|a_i - a_j\| \in \{d_1, d_2\}$  for all  $i \neq j$ .

$$\Rightarrow m \leq \binom{n+2}{2}$$

Proof. Claim:  $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_m, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  are linearly independent.

(If true, then

$$m+n+1 \leq \binom{n+2}{2} + n + 1 \\ \Rightarrow m \leq \binom{n+2}{2}.$$

Suppose that

$$\sum_{i=1}^m c_i f_i(x) + \sum_{j=1}^n d_j x_j + b = 0$$

Take  $x = ye_k$  for some  $y \in \mathbb{R}$

$$e_k = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^n \quad k^{\text{th}} \text{ coordinate}$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^m c_i (y^2 - 2a_{ik}y + \sum_j a_{ij}^2 - d_i^2) (y^2 - 2a_{ik}y + \sum_j a_{ij}^2 - d_i^2) \\ + d_k y + b = 0$$

Identity  $\rightarrow$  compare the coefficients of  $y^3$  &  $y^4$ .

$$y^4$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^m c_i = 0$$

$$y^3$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^m (c_i(-2a_{ik}) + c_i(-2a_{ik})) = 0.$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^m c_i a_{ik} = 0$$

If we put  $x = e_k$ ,

$$c_k d_1^2 d_2^2 + \sum_{j=1}^n d_j a_{kj} + b = 0$$

$$0 = \sum_{k=1}^m c_k (c_k d_1^2 d_2^2 + \sum_j d_j a_{kj} + b)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \left( \sum_{k=1}^m c_k^2 \right) (d_1^2 d_2^2) + \sum_{j=1}^n \left( d_j \sum_{k=1}^m c_k a_{kj} \right) + b \left( \sum_{k=1}^m c_k \right) \\
 &= \left( \sum_{k=1}^m c_k^2 \right) (d_1^2 d_2^2) \\
 &\Rightarrow \sum_{k=1}^m c_k^2 = 0 \quad c_1 = c_2 = \dots = c_m = 0. \quad \square
 \end{aligned}$$

Remark:  $X$  is an  $s$ -distance set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$

$$\Rightarrow |X| \leq \binom{n+s}{s}$$

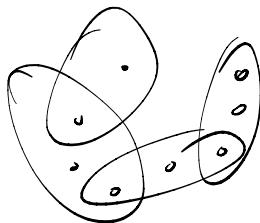
Bannai, Bannai, Stanton (1983)

## 1.5. Parallel lectures

KAIST 2 special lectures at the same.

$C_1, C_2, C_3, \dots, C_m$  : list of student clubs

Q: Can we assign students to one of 2 lectures so that in each student club, there is at least one student in each lecture hall?



Thm (Erdős 1963)

If each club has  $\geq k$  members  
and  $m < 2^{k-1}$ ,

then

it is possible to assign students into one of the 2 lecture halls so that no student club is completely in 1 lecture hall.

Proof We randomly assign each student to one of the 2 lecture halls with prob  $\frac{1}{2}$  independently.

Let  $A_i$  = event that all members of  $C_i$  are completely in 1 lecture hall.

$$P(A_i) = 2 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{|C_i|} \leq 2 \cdot 2^{-k} = 2^{1-k}.$$

$$\Pr(A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_m) \leq \sum_{i=1}^m \Pr(A_i) = m 2^{1-k} < 1$$

→ There is a positive probability that none of  $A_i$  occurs.  $\square$   
 "Union bound"

Thus. Suppose that each club has  $\geq 2$  members and  $|C_i \cap C_j| \neq 1$  for all  $i, j$ .

Then it's possible to assign students in that way.

Proof. Let  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  be the list of students.  
 We say an assignment of  $x_1, \dots, x_i$  is bad if there is a club whose members are completely in one lecture hall.

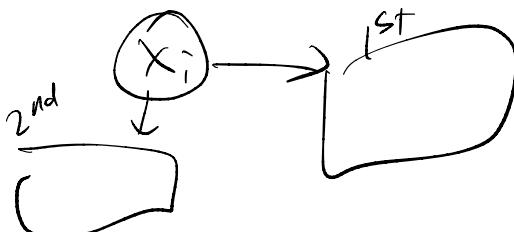
Induction on  $i$ .

$i=1$

Put  $x_1$  into an arbitrary lecture hall.

$i>1$

Assume that  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{i-1}$  are already assigned to one of the 2 lecture halls so that no club is bad.



Claim: There is an assignment of  $x_1 \dots x_i$  that is not bad.

We may assume there is a club  $C \subseteq 1^{\text{st}}$  lecture hall  $x_i \in C \subseteq \{x_1, \dots, x_i\}$

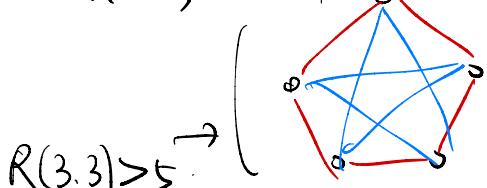
Similarly there is  
 $x_i \in D \subseteq 2^{\text{nd}}$  lecture hall  
 $D \subseteq \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$   
 $|C \cap D| = 1$ . Contradiction.  $\square$

## 1.6. Ramsey Numbers

For integers  $k, l > 0$ , we say  
 $R(k, l) = \min\{N : \text{any coloring of } E(K_N)$   
 with 2 colors (red or blue)  
 has a red  $K_k$  subgraph  
 or a blue  $K_l$  subgraph}

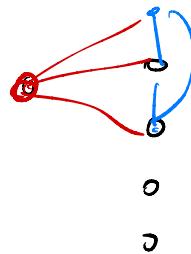
Ramsey number

$$R(3, 3) = 6$$



$$R(3, 3) > 5$$

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{No red } K_3 \\ \text{No blue } K_3 \end{array} \right.$



$$R(3, 3) \leq 6$$

Thm: If  $\binom{n}{k} 2^{1-\binom{k}{2}} < 1$ , then  $R(k, k) > n$ .

Proof.

We color the edges of  $K_n$  randomly by red or blue with prob  $\frac{1}{2}$  each.

For a set  $R$  of  $k$  vertices

(let)  $A_R = \text{event that } R \text{ induces a red } K_k$  or a blue  $K_k$ .

$$\Pr(A_R) = 2^{-\binom{k}{2}} \times 2 = 2^{1-\binom{k}{2}}$$

$$\Pr\left(\bigcup_{\substack{R \subseteq V(K_n) \\ |R|=k}} A_R\right) \leq \sum_{\substack{R \subseteq V(K_n) \\ |R|=k}} \Pr(A_R) = \binom{n}{k} 2^{1-\binom{k}{2}} < 1$$

$\Rightarrow$  There is a positive probability that none of  $A_k$  occurs

$\Rightarrow R(k, k) > n.$

Say  $n = \lfloor 2^{\frac{k}{2}} \rfloor$ .  $k \geq 3$ .

$$\binom{n}{k} 2^{1 - \binom{k}{2}} < \frac{n^k}{k!} 2^{1 - \frac{k(k-1)}{2}} = \frac{n^k}{k!} \frac{2^{1 + \frac{k}{2}}}{2^{-\frac{k^2}{2}}}$$
$$< \frac{2^{\frac{k^2}{2}}}{k!} \frac{2^{1 + \frac{k}{2}}}{2^{\frac{k^2}{2}}}$$
$$= \frac{1}{k!} 2^{1 + \frac{k}{2}}$$
$$< \frac{1}{3!} 2^{1 + \frac{3}{2}} = \frac{4\sqrt{2}}{3!} < 1$$

$\therefore R(k, k) > \lfloor 2^{\frac{k}{2}} \rfloor$  if  $k \geq 3.$

# 1.7. Family of Sets

A set system (or a family of sets) over  $X$

is a set of subsets of  $X$

$$\mathcal{F} = \{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_m\}$$

A set system  $\mathcal{F}$  is  $k$ -uniform

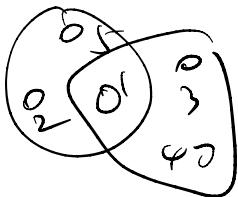
if  $|X|=k$  for all  $X \in \mathcal{F}$ .

A "hypergraph" is a pair  $(V, E)$

of a finite set  $V$

and a set  $E$  of "edges" (hyperedges)

that are subsets of  $V$ .

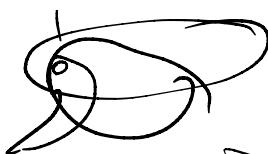


$$(\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}, \{\{3, 4\}, \{1, 2, 5\}\})$$

## 2. SET SYSTEMS WITH RESTRICTED INTERSECTION

### 2.1. Erdős-Ko-Rado Theorem

We say a set system  $\mathcal{F}$  is INTERSECTING if  
 $x \cap y \neq \emptyset$  for all  $x, y \in \mathcal{F}$ .



A set system over  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$   
which is intersecting

→ subsets containing 1.

$2^{n-1}$  such sets.

Thm. If  $\mathcal{F}$  is an intersecting family of  
subsets of an  $n$ -element set  $S$ ,  
then  $|\mathcal{F}| \leq 2^{n-1}$ .

Proof. Suppose  $|\mathcal{F}| > 2^{n-1}$ .

Then  $\mathcal{F}$  contains a pair  $X, Y$

$$Y = S - X \\ \Rightarrow X \cap Y = \emptyset$$

◻

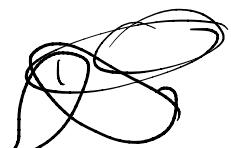
Thm (Erdős-Ko-Rado 1961)

let  $k \leq n$ . Intersecting

Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a  $k$ -uniform family of  
subsets of an  $n$ -element set.

Then  $|\mathcal{F}| \leq \binom{n-1}{k-1}$

Example :



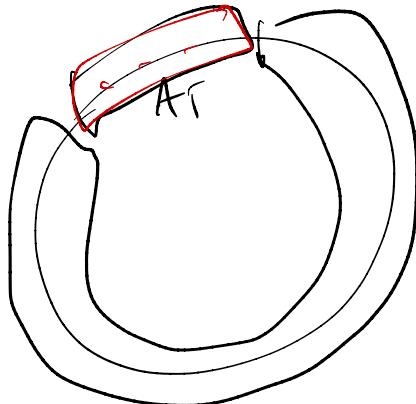
$$\binom{n-1}{k-1}$$

Proof (Katona 1972)

$$A_1, A_2, \dots, A_m \in \mathcal{F}$$

$$S = \{1, \dots, n\}$$

$$|A_i| = k$$



For  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\}$   
let  $P_i$  be the set  
of all cyclic permutations  
of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$   
such that all elements  
of  $A_i$  occur  
consecutively  
in the cyclic order.

$$|P_i| = k! (n-k)!$$

- #cyclic permutation =  $(n-1)!$
- Each cyclic permutation can occur  
in at most  $k$  of  $P_1, P_2, \dots, P_m$ .  
Why?



$$A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^m |P_i| \leq k \cdot (\# \text{cyclic permutations}) \\ = k \cdot (n-1)!$$

$$m k! (n-k)! \leq k \cdot (n-1)!$$

$$m \leq \frac{1}{(k-1)!(n-k)!} (n-1)! = \binom{n-1}{k-1} \quad \square$$