

Theorem 1. Suppose \mathcal{L} is sampled from a Random Graph model (such as a graphon model) that is independent of X_0 . Denote $N = \max\{n, d\}$. Then for any $\epsilon > 0$, there exist a universal constant $C > 0$ and constants $C_P, c_\alpha > 0$ depending only on α and f such that

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\left|h_G - \frac{1}{n} \text{Tr}(f(\mathcal{L})\mathcal{L}f(\mathcal{L}))\right| \geq \frac{C_P(\log N)^{1+\epsilon}}{\sqrt{N}}\right) \leq C N^{-c_\alpha(\log N)^\epsilon}.$$

Proof. The proof uses the Hanson–Wright inequality. Throughout we condition on \mathcal{L} (independent of X_0), apply concentration, and then remove the conditioning at the end. Set

$$A := f(\mathcal{L})\mathcal{L}f(\mathcal{L}),$$

which is positive semidefinite because $\mathcal{L} \succeq 0$ and $f(\mathcal{L})$ is symmetric. We use the uniform bounds

$$\|\mathcal{L}\|_{\text{op}} \leq 1, \quad \|f(\mathcal{L})\|_{\text{op}} \leq C_P \implies \|A\|_{\text{op}} \leq C_P, \quad \|A\|_F \leq \sqrt{n} C_P.$$

Case 1: $n \geq d$ (so $N = n$). We write

$$\begin{aligned} h_G &= \frac{1}{n} \text{Tr}(\mathcal{L}X X^\top) = \frac{1}{nd} \text{Tr}(\mathcal{L}f(\mathcal{L})X_0 X_0^\top f(\mathcal{L})) = \frac{1}{nd} \text{Tr}(X_0^\top A X_0) \\ &= \frac{1}{nd} \sum_{a=1}^d (X_0 \mathbf{e}_a)^\top A (X_0 \mathbf{e}_a) = \frac{1}{n} \text{Tr}(A) + \Delta(n), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\Delta(n) := \frac{1}{d} \sum_{a=1}^d E_a, \quad E_a := \frac{1}{n} \left((X_0 \mathbf{e}_a)^\top A (X_0 \mathbf{e}_a) - \text{Tr}(A) \right).$$

Since $X_0 \mathbf{e}_a \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} N(0, I_n)$ and is independent of \mathcal{L} , the Hanson–Wright inequality for $\gamma \sim N(0, I_n)$ yields, for any $t > 0$,

$$\mathbb{P}(|E_a| \geq t \mid \mathcal{L}) = \mathbb{P}\left(|\gamma^\top A \gamma - \text{Tr}(A)| \geq nt \mid \mathcal{L}\right) \leq C \exp\left(-c \min\left\{\frac{n^2 t^2}{\|A\|_F^2}, \frac{nt}{\|A\|_{\text{op}}}\right\}\right).$$

Choose $t = \frac{C_P(\log N)^{1+\epsilon}}{\sqrt{N}} = \frac{C_P(\log n)^{1+\epsilon}}{\sqrt{n}}$. Then

$$\frac{n^2 t^2}{\|A\|_F^2} = (\log n)^{2+2\epsilon}, \quad \frac{nt}{\|A\|_{\text{op}}} \geq (\log n)^{1+\epsilon},$$

so

$$\mathbb{P}\left(|E_a| \geq \frac{C_P(\log n)^{1+\epsilon}}{\sqrt{n}} \mid \mathcal{L}\right) \leq C \exp(-c(\log n)^{1+\epsilon}).$$

Since $|\Delta(n)| \leq \max_{1 \leq a \leq d} |E_a|$, by a union bound over $a = 1, \dots, d$ (with $d \leq n = N$),

$$\mathbb{P}\left(|\Delta(n)| \geq \frac{C_P(\log n)^{1+\epsilon}}{\sqrt{n}} \mid \mathcal{L}\right) \leq C d \exp(-c(\log n)^{1+\epsilon}) = C n^{-c_\alpha(\log n)^\epsilon}.$$

Unconditioning preserves the bound:

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\left|h_G - \frac{1}{n} \text{Tr}(A)\right| \geq \frac{C_P(\log n)^{1+\epsilon}}{\sqrt{n}}\right) \leq C n^{-c_\alpha(\log n)^\epsilon}.$$

Case 2: $d > n$ (so $N = d$). Since $\mathcal{L} \succeq 0$, write $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}^{1/2} \mathcal{L}^{1/2}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}
h_G &= \frac{1}{nd} \sum_{a=1}^d (X_0 \mathbf{e}_a)^\top f(\mathcal{L}) \mathcal{L}^{1/2} \mathcal{L}^{1/2} f(\mathcal{L}) X_0 \mathbf{e}_a \\
&= \frac{1}{nd} \sum_{a=1}^d \sum_{i=1}^n (\mathbf{e}_i^\top \mathcal{L}^{1/2} f(\mathcal{L}) X_0 \mathbf{e}_a)^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\|f(\mathcal{L}) \mathcal{L}^{1/2} \mathbf{e}_i\|_2^2}{d} \sum_{a=1}^d \gamma_a^2 \\
&= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \|f(\mathcal{L}) \mathcal{L}^{1/2} \mathbf{e}_i\|_2^2 + \Delta(d) = \frac{1}{n} \text{Tr}(\mathcal{L}^{1/2} f(\mathcal{L}) f(\mathcal{L}) \mathcal{L}^{1/2}) + \Delta(d) \\
&= \frac{1}{n} \text{Tr}(A) + \Delta(d),
\end{aligned}$$

where $\gamma \sim N(0, I_d)$ and

$$\Delta(d) := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n E_i, \quad E_i := \frac{\|f(\mathcal{L}) \mathcal{L}^{1/2} \mathbf{e}_i\|_2^2}{d} \left(\gamma^\top I_d \gamma - \text{Tr}(I_d) \right).$$

Using $\|\mathcal{L}\|_{\text{op}} \leq 1$ and $\|f(\mathcal{L})\|_{\text{op}} \leq C_P$, we have $\|f(\mathcal{L}) \mathcal{L}^{1/2} \mathbf{e}_i\|_2^2 \leq C_P$, hence

$$|E_i| \leq \frac{C_P}{d} \left| \gamma^\top I_d \gamma - \text{Tr}(I_d) \right|.$$

Apply Hanson–Wright with $A = I_d$ ($\|I_d\|_F = \sqrt{d}$, $\|I_d\|_{\text{op}} = 1$) and choose

$$t = \frac{C_P(\log N)^{1+\epsilon}}{\sqrt{N}} = \frac{C_P(\log d)^{1+\epsilon}}{\sqrt{d}}.$$

Then

$$\mathbb{P}(|E_i| \geq t \mid \mathcal{L}) \leq \mathbb{P}\left(\left| \gamma^\top I_d \gamma - \text{Tr}(I_d) \right| \geq (\log d)^{1+\epsilon} \sqrt{d}\right) \leq C \exp(-c(\log d)^{1+\epsilon}).$$

A union bound over $i = 1, \dots, n$ (with $n < d = N$) gives

$$\mathbb{P}\left(|\Delta(d)| \geq \frac{C_P(\log d)^{1+\epsilon}}{\sqrt{d}} \mid \mathcal{L}\right) \leq C n \exp(-c(\log d)^{1+\epsilon}) = C d^{-c_\alpha(\log d)^\epsilon}.$$

Unconditioning yields

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\left| h_G - \frac{1}{n} \text{Tr}(A) \right| \geq \frac{C_P(\log d)^{1+\epsilon}}{\sqrt{d}}\right) \leq C d^{-c_\alpha(\log d)^\epsilon}.$$

Conclusion. In Case 1 we have $N = n$, in Case 2 we have $N = d$. Rewriting both bounds with $N = \max\{n, d\}$ gives the stated inequality:

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\left| h_G - \frac{1}{n} \text{Tr}(f(\mathcal{L}) \mathcal{L} f(\mathcal{L})) \right| \geq \frac{C_P(\log N)^{1+\epsilon}}{\sqrt{N}}\right) \leq C N^{-c_\alpha(\log N)^\epsilon}.$$

The argument used only $\|\mathcal{L}\|_{\text{op}} \leq 1$ and the independence of \mathcal{L} and X_0 , so removing conditioning is valid. This completes the proof. \square