

## Probability space

**Definition (Probability space):** *Probability space* is a triple  $(\Omega, \Sigma, P)$ , where  $\Omega$  is a set,  $\Sigma \subseteq 2^\Omega$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra ( $\emptyset \in \Sigma$ ; if  $A \in \Sigma \Rightarrow \Omega \setminus A \in \Sigma$ , if  $A_1, A_2, \dots \in \Sigma$ , then  $\bigcup_{i=1}^\infty A_i \in \Sigma$ ), and  $P : \Sigma \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is a probability measure ( $P[\emptyset] = 0, P[\Omega] = 1$ , if  $A_1, A_2, \dots$  are pairwise disjoint elements of  $\Sigma$  then  $P[\bigcup_{i=1}^\infty A_i] = \sum_{i=1}^\infty P[A_i]$ ). Elements of  $\Sigma$  are called *events*, elements of  $\Omega$  are *elementary events*,  $P[A]$  is the *probability* of the event  $A$ .

### Examples

*Finite probability space:* ( $\Omega$  – finite,  $\Sigma = 2^\Omega$ , then  $P$  is uniquely determined by a function  $\Sigma \rightarrow [0, 1]$ , s.t.  $\sum_{\omega \in \Omega} p(\omega) = 1$ , then  $P[A] = \sum_{\omega \in A} p(\omega)$ ). More specific version, uniformly determined:  $p(\omega) = \frac{1}{|\Omega|}$

*Random Graphs:* The probability space  $G(n, p)$  of random graphs on  $n$  vertices with edge probability  $p \in [0, 1]$  is given by  $\Omega$  – graphs on fixed  $n$  number and  $\Sigma = 2^\Omega$ . For  $G$  on  $n$  vertices  $p(G) = p^n(1-p)^{\binom{n}{2}}$  where  $n$  is the number of edges of  $G$

*Random point in a square:*  $\Omega = [0, 1]^2$ ,  $\Sigma$  – lebesgue measurable subset of  $[0, 1]^2$  For  $A \in \Sigma$  :  $P[A] := \lambda(A)$  – lebesgue measure = generalization of an area

**Lemma (Union bound)** Let  $(\Omega, \Sigma, P)$  be a prob. space and let  $A_1, \dots, A_n \in \Sigma$  then  $P[\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i] \leq \sum_{i=1}^n P[A_i]$

**Proof** Let  $B_i = A_i \setminus (A_1 \cup \dots \cup A_{i-1})$ . Then  $B_i \subseteq A_i, \bigcup_{i=1}^n B_i = \bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i$ ,  $B_i$  are pairwise disjoint.  $P[\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i] = P[\bigcup_{i=1}^n B_i] = \sum_{i=1}^n P[B_i] \leq \sum_{i=1}^n P[A_i]$  (since  $B \subseteq A \Rightarrow P[B] \leq P[A]$ )  
 $P[A] = P[(A \setminus B) \cup B] = P[A \setminus B] + P[B] \geq P[B]$

### Definition (independent events):

Let  $(\Omega, \Sigma, P)$  be a prob. space then two events  $A, B \in \Sigma$  are *independent* if  $P[A, B] = P[A]P[B]$

If  $A_1, \dots, A_n \in \Sigma$ , then they are *independent* if for every  $I \subseteq [n] : P[\bigcap_{i \in I} A_i] = \prod_{i \in I} P[A_i]$

**Definition (conditional probability):** let  $(\Omega, \Sigma, P)$  be an prob. space and  $B \in \Sigma$  s.t.  $P[B] > 0$  then the *conditional probability* of  $A$ , given that  $B$  occurred is defined  $P[A|B] = \frac{P[A \cap B]}{P[B]}$

**Remark**  $P[A|B] = P[A]$  if  $A, B$  are independent.

### Estimates

Fractional:

- $\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^{\frac{n}{2}} \leq n! \leq n^n$
- $\left(\frac{n}{e}\right)^n \leq n! \leq en \left(\frac{n}{e}\right)^n$
- stirling formula  $n!$  is aprox,  $\lim \dots = 0$

Binomial coefficients:

- $\binom{n}{k}^k \leq \frac{n(n-1)\dots(n-k+1)}{k(k-1)\dots 1} = \binom{n}{k} \leq \frac{n^k}{k!} \leq n^k$
- $\binom{n}{k} \leq \left(\frac{en}{k}\right)^k$
- $\frac{2^{2m}}{2\sqrt{m}} \leq \binom{2m}{m} \leq \frac{2^{2m}}{\sqrt{2m}}$

Inequality:

- $1 + x \leq e^x$
- $(1 - p)^n \leq e^{-pn}$

**Definition (expected value)** For finite prob. space  $(\Omega, \Sigma, P)$  a *random variable* is a function  $X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , *expected value*  $E[X]$  of a random variable is a value  $\sum_{\omega \in \Omega} p(\omega)X(\omega)$ , where  $p(\omega) = P[\{\omega\}]$

**Remark** *Linearity of expected value:*  $E[\alpha X + \beta Y] = \alpha E[X] + \beta E[Y]$

**Application**  $k$ -satisfiability problem

**Definition (Formula in conjunctive normal form – CNF)** By example

## Examples

$(x \vee y \vee z) \wedge (x \vee \neg y) \wedge (\neg x \vee \neg y \vee \neg z \vee t)$ . Example of satisfaction  $x = T, y = F, z = F, t = F$ .

$(x \vee y) \wedge (x \vee \neg y) \wedge (\neg x \wedge y) \wedge (\neg x \vee \neg y)$ . Not satisfiable.

**Proposition:** Let  $\Phi$  be a CNF-formula s.t. every clause contains  $k$  distinct literals and with less than  $2^k$  clauses then  $\Phi$  is satisfiable.

**Proof:** For each variable we assign it true randomly with probability  $1/2$ , independently of the other variables.  $\Phi = C_1 \wedge C_2 \wedge \dots \wedge C_t$ , where  $C_i$  are clauses,  $t < 2^k$ .  $P[C_i \text{ is not satisfied}] \leq \frac{1}{2^k}$ .  $C_i = (l_1 \vee l_2 \vee \dots \vee l_k)$ , where  $l_j$  are literals. If  $\{x, \neg x\} \subseteq C_i$ , then  $P = 0$ , otherwise  $P = \frac{1}{2^k}$ . By union bound:  $P[\text{some } C_i \text{ is not satisfied}] \leq \frac{t}{2^k} < 1 \Rightarrow$  There exists satisfying assignment.

## Maximum intersecting families

**Definition (intersecting)** Let  $X$  be set of  $n$  elements,  $k \leq n$  we say that family  $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \binom{X}{k}$  is *intersecting*, if for every  $F_1, F_2 \in \mathcal{F}$  we have  $F_1 \cap F_2 \neq \emptyset$ .

Whenever  $k > \frac{n}{2}$  max. size of int. family is  $\binom{n}{k}$ . If  $n \geq 2k$  we can get  $\binom{n-1}{k-1}$ .

**Theorem (Erdős-Ko-Rado)** Let  $X$  be an  $n$ -element set,  $k$  be s.t.  $n \geq 2k$ . Then the size of any intersecting family of sets of size  $k$  is at most  $\binom{n-1}{k-1}$ .

**Lemma** Let us consider  $X = \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$  with addition modulo  $n$  and let  $A_s := \{s, s+1, \dots, s+k-1\}$  for  $s \in X$  and assume  $n \geq 2k$ . Then the maximum intersecting family of sets  $A_s$  has size at most  $k$ .

**Proof** Let us assume that some  $A_i$  belongs to maximum intersecting family. Only the sets  $A_{i-k+1}, A_{i-k+2}, \dots, A_{i-1}, A_i, A_{i+1}, \dots, A_{i+k-2}, A_{i+k-1}$  may belong to the family. Furthermore only one set of each pair  $A_x, A_{x+k}$  may belong to the family  $\Rightarrow$  altogether at most  $k$  sets.

**Proof of Erdős-Ko-Rado** WLoG  $X = \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$ . For  $s \in \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}, \sigma \in S_n$  (permutation) we define:  $A_{s,\sigma} := \{\sigma(s), \sigma(s+1), \dots, \sigma(s+k-1)\}$ . Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be the intersecting family. We want to estimate  $P[A_{s,\sigma} \in \mathcal{F}]$  if  $s$  and  $\sigma$  are chosen uniformly at random, independently.

On one hand:  $P[A_{s,\sigma} \in \mathcal{F}] = \frac{|\mathcal{F}|}{\binom{n}{k}}$  (first choose  $s$ , then  $\sigma$ , uniformly chosen subset).

On the other hand:  $P[A_{s,\sigma} \in \mathcal{F}] \leq \frac{k}{n}$  (first choose  $\sigma$ , then  $s$ ; by previous lemma).

Altogether  $\frac{|\mathcal{F}|}{\binom{n}{k}} = P[A_{s,\sigma} \in \mathcal{F}] \leq \frac{k}{n} \rightarrow |\mathcal{F}| \leq \frac{k}{n} \binom{n}{k} = \binom{n-1}{k-1}$ .

## Expected values

**Definition (random variable)** let  $(\Omega, \Sigma, P)$  be a probability space. A *random variable* is any  $P$ -measurable function  $X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . In finite case any function is  $P$ -measurable.

**Definition (expected value):** The *expected value* of random variable  $X$  is the value  $E[X] := \int_{\Omega} X dP$ . In finite case  $E[X] = \sum_{\omega \in \Omega} p(\omega)X(\omega)$  where  $p(\omega) = P(\{\omega\})$  Equivalently  $E[X] = \sum_{a \in X(\Omega)} aP[X = a]$ .

**Definition (independence of random variables):** Two random variables  $X, Y$  are *independent* if  $\forall A, B \in \Sigma : P[(X \in A) \wedge (Y \in B)] = P[X \in A]P[Y \in B]$

**Lemma** For probability space  $(\Omega, \Sigma, P)$  and random variables  $X, Y$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ :

- (i)  $E[\alpha X + \beta Y] = \alpha E[X] + \beta E[Y]$
- (ii)  $E[XY] = E[X]E[Y]$  if  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent.

**Proof (finite case)**

(i)

$$E[\alpha X + \beta Y] = \sum_{\omega \in \Omega} p(\omega)(\alpha X + \beta Y)(\omega) = \sum_{\omega \in \Omega} p(\omega)\alpha X(\omega) + p(\omega)\beta Y(\omega) = \alpha E[X] + \beta E[Y]$$

(ii)

$$\begin{aligned} E[XY] &= \sum_{c \in XY(\Omega)} cP[XY = c] = \sum_{\substack{a \in X(\Omega) \\ b \in Y(\Omega)}} abP[(X = a) \wedge (Y = b)] \stackrel{\text{ind.}}{=} \\ &\stackrel{\text{ind.}}{=} \sum_{\substack{a \in X(\Omega) \\ b \in Y(\Omega)}} abP[X = a]P[Y = b] = \left( \sum_{a \in X(\Omega)} aP[X = a] \right) \left( \sum_{b \in Y(\Omega)} bP[Y = b] \right) = E[X]E[Y] \end{aligned}$$

**Definition (indicator):** For probability space  $(\Omega, \Sigma, P)$  and an event  $A \in \Sigma$ , the *indicator of A* is the random variable  $I_A : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined as:  $I_A(\omega) = 0$  if  $\omega \notin A$ , 1 otherwise.

**Lemma**  $E[I_A] = P[A]$

**Proof (finite case)**  $E[I_A] = \sum_{\omega \in \Omega} p(\omega)I_A(\omega) = \sum_{\omega \in A} p(\omega) = P[A]$

**Proof (general case)**  $E[I_A] = \int_{\omega \in \Omega} I_A(\omega)dP(\omega) = \int_{\omega \in A} dP = P[A]$

**Application** The expected value of fixed points in a random permutation. For permutation  $\sigma$  of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , a fixed point is  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  s.t.  $\sigma(i) = i$ .

**Proposition:** Expected number of fixed points in a permutation on  $\{1, \dots, n\}$  is 1.

**Proof** For  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$   $A_i \dots i$  is a fixed point.  $P[A_i] = E[I_{A_i}] = \frac{1}{n}$ . Expected number of fixed points  $E[\sum_i I_{A_i}] = n \cdot \frac{1}{n} = 1$ .

**Definition (Tournament)** A *tournament* is a complete directed graph. (Interpretation is that everybody plays with everybody and the direction means the winner.)

**Definition (Hamiltonian path over directed graphs)** Path over all vertices that follows direction of edges.

**Remark** Each tournament has at least one Hamiltonian path.

**Theorem (Szele)** For every integer  $n$  there is a tournament with at least  $\frac{n!}{2^{n-1}}$  Hamiltonian paths.

**Proof** Set  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  to be the set of the vertices of the tournament. Direct each edge (independently of others) with probability of  $\frac{1}{2}$  in one direction and  $\frac{1}{2}$  in the second one. Consider a permutation  $\sigma \in S_n$  and let  $X_\sigma$  be a random variable indicating the event that  $\sigma(1), \sigma(2), \dots, \sigma(n)$  forms a Hamiltonian path in this order.  $E[X_\sigma] = \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}$  (there are  $(n-1)$  edges in the path, all of them need to be in correct direction). Let  $X$  be number of Hamiltonian paths, then  $E[X] = \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} E[X_\sigma] = \frac{n!}{2^{n-1}}$ , thus there exists a tournament with such number of Hamiltonian paths.

**Application (MaxSAT)** Let  $\Phi$  be a formula in conjunctive normal form with  $m$  clauses and  $k$  distinct literals in each clause. Find assignment that satisfies as many clauses as possible.

**Proposition** There is an assignment for which at least  $\frac{2^k-1}{2^k}m$  are satisfied.

**Proof** Choose a random assignment: for clause  $C$  let  $A_C$  be an event that  $C$  is satisfied in the assignment.  $E[I_{A_C}] = P[A_C] \geq \frac{2^k-1}{2^k}$ .  $E[\text{number of satisfied clauses}] = \sum_{C \text{ is clause}} E[I_{A_C}] \geq m \frac{2^k-1}{2^k}$ .

**Application (MaxCut)** We are given a graph  $G = (V, E)$ . The task is to find splitting  $V = A \dot{\cup} B$  so that the number of edges on the cut between  $A$  and  $B$  is as large as possible.

**Proposition** For every  $G$  we can get cut of size  $\frac{m}{2}$  where  $m = |E|$ .

**Proof** For each vertex  $v$ , it will be in  $A$  with probability  $\frac{1}{2}$  and in  $B$  with probability  $\frac{1}{2}$  independently of other vertices. For  $e \in E$  let  $A_e : e$  belongs to the  $AB$ -cut.  $P[A_e] = \frac{1}{2}$ .  $E[\text{edges in cut}] = \sum E[I_{A_e}] = \frac{m}{2}$ .

**Derandomization of MaxCut**

1. Choose an edge  $e$  of  $E$ , put one vertex of  $e$  into  $A$  and one into  $B$ .
2. Pick remaining vertices one by one, add them either into  $A$  or  $B$ , so that at least  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the edges coming to  $A \cup B$  will go into the cut.

In each step we put at least as many edges into the cut as outside. Therefore we have at least  $\frac{m}{2}$  edges in final cut.

**Derandomization of MaxSAT (sketch)** Let us consider formula  $(x \vee y \vee z) \wedge (x \vee \neg y \vee \neg z) \wedge (\neg x \vee z \vee t)$ . Pick variables one by one. Fix each variable to “better” value w.r.t. computed expected number of satisfied clauses in random assignment of remaining variables.

- $x$  to true: expected value is  $1 + 1 + \frac{3}{4}$
- $x$  to false: expected value is  $\frac{3}{4} + \frac{3}{4} + 1$

“better” approach is to choose  $x = \text{true}$ . This works because  $E[I_A] = \frac{1}{2}E[I_{A|B}] + \frac{1}{2}E[I_{A|B^c}]$  if  $P[B] = \frac{1}{2}$ .

**Proposition (Balancing vectors)** Let  $v_1, \dots, v_n \in \mathbb{R}^n$  be such that  $\|v_i\| = 1$  for every  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . Then there are  $\varepsilon \in \{-1, 1\}$  such that  $\|\varepsilon_1 v_1 + \varepsilon_2 v_2 + \dots + \varepsilon_n v_n\| \leq \sqrt{n}$ . Also there are  $\varepsilon \in \{-1, 1\}$  such that  $\|\varepsilon_1 v_1 + \varepsilon_2 v_2 + \dots + \varepsilon_n v_n\| \geq \sqrt{n}$ . Furthermore the these bounds are tight (can be proven via diagonal and its norm).

**Proof** Pick each  $\varepsilon_i$  to be equal to  $-1$  with probability  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $1$  with probability  $\frac{1}{2}$  independently of others. Let  $X = \|\varepsilon_1 v_1 + \dots + \varepsilon_n v_n\|^2$ .  $E[X] = E[\sum_{i,j=1}^n \varepsilon_i \varepsilon_j \langle v_i, v_j \rangle] \stackrel{\text{lin.}}{=} \sum_{i,j=1}^n E[\varepsilon_i \varepsilon_j] \langle v_i, v_j \rangle$ . Since  $E[\varepsilon_i \varepsilon_i] = 1$  and  $E[\varepsilon_i \varepsilon_j] = 0$  for  $i \neq j$  it holds:  $E[X] = \sum_{i=1}^n \langle v_i, v_i \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n \|v_i\|^2 = n$ .

## Alterations

**Proposition (weak form of Turán’s theorem)** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph with  $n$  vertices and  $m$  edges and let  $d = \frac{2m}{n}$  denotes the average degree. Then  $\alpha(G) \geq \frac{n}{2d}$ .

**Remark** Full version on Turán’s theorem gives  $\alpha(G) \geq \frac{n}{d+1}$

**Proof (of weak Turán’s theorem)** Consider  $p \in [0, 1]$ . Pick a random subset  $S \subseteq V$  s.t. each vertex belongs to  $S$  with probability  $p$ , independently of others. Consider two random variables  $X = |S|$  and  $Y = |E(G[S])|$ .  $E[X] = pn$ .  $E[Y] = p^2 m$ .  $E[X - Y] = p(n - pm) = p(n - \frac{dn}{2}) = pn(1 - \frac{d}{2})$ . Choose  $p = \frac{1}{d}$ , then:  $E[X - Y] = \frac{n}{2d}$ . Remove the vertex from each edge, then we get independent set of size at least  $\frac{n}{2d}$ .

**Lemma (Markov’s inequality)** Let  $X$  be a non-negative random variable, let  $a > 0$ . Then  $P[X \geq a] \leq \frac{E[X]}{a}$ .

**Proof**  $E[X] \geq aP[X \geq a]$

**Definition (proper  $k$ -coloring)** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph. Then *proper  $k$ -coloring* of  $G$  is a function  $c : V \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$  such that  $c(u) \neq c(v)$  for any  $uv \in E$ .

**Definition (chromatic number)** *Chromatic number* of  $G$  is the minimum  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $G$  admits proper  $k$ -coloring.

**Definition (Girth)** A *girth* of  $G$ ,  $g(G)$  is the length of the shortest cycle in  $G$ . If  $G$  is forest let  $g(G) = \infty$ .

**Theorem (Erdős)** For every  $k, l > 0$  there is a graph  $G$  such that  $g(G) > l, \chi(G) > k$ .

**Proof** WLoG  $k, l \geq 3$ . We set  $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{2l}, p = n^{\varepsilon-1}$ . Consider  $G(n, p)$ . For  $i \in \{3, \dots, l\}$  the cycles of size  $i$  on  $K_n$ :  $\binom{n}{i} \frac{(i-1)!}{2} \leq n^i$ . Let  $X$  be a random variable of the number of cycles of length at most  $l$ .

$$E[X] \leq \sum_{i=3}^l n^i p^i = \sum_{i=3}^l n^{i\varepsilon} \leq l n^{\frac{1}{2l}l} = l n^{\frac{1}{2}} = o(n)$$

Thus for  $n$  large enough:  $E[X] < \frac{n}{4}$ . By Markov’s inequality:  $P[X > \frac{n}{2}] < \frac{\frac{n}{4}}{\frac{n}{2}} = \frac{1}{2}$ .

Bound for chromatic number by independence number. Let  $a = \lceil \frac{3}{p} \log n \rceil + 1$ . Then  $\frac{3}{p} \log n \leq a - 1 \leq \frac{4}{p} \log n$  (from  $n$  large enough). Let  $\alpha$  be random variable denoting independence number of  $G$ .

$$\begin{aligned} P[\alpha \geq a] &\leq \binom{n}{a} (1-p)^{\binom{a}{2}} \leq n^a \ell^{-p \binom{a}{2}} = \exp \left( a \left( \log n - p \frac{a-1}{2} \right) \right) \leq \exp \left( a \left( \log n - \frac{p}{2} \frac{3 \log n}{p} \right) \right) = \\ &= \exp \left( a \left( -\frac{1}{2} \log n \right) \right) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0 \end{aligned}$$

For  $n$  large enough  $P[\alpha \geq a] < \frac{1}{2}$ . By union bound there is  $G$  with:  $n$  vertices, has at most  $\frac{n}{2}$  cycles of length  $\ell$ ,  $\alpha(G) < a$ . Finally let us obtain  $G'$  by removing vertex from each cycle of  $G$ . Then  $G'$  has at least  $\frac{n}{2}$  vertices,  $g(G') > \ell$ ,  $\alpha(G') < a$ ,  $\chi(G') \geq \frac{\frac{n}{2}}{a-1} \geq \frac{p}{4 \log n} \frac{n}{2} = \frac{n^\epsilon}{8 \log n} \rightarrow \infty$ . For  $n$  large enough  $\chi(G') > k$  as we wanted.

**Theorem (Bayes theorem)** Let  $A, B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n \subseteq \Omega$  be events s.t.  $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n$  are pairwise disjoint cover  $\Omega$ ,  $P[B_i] > 0$ . Then  $P[B_i|A] = \frac{P[A|B_i]P[B_i]}{\sum_{j=1}^n P[A|B_j]P[B_j]}$

**Observation:**  $P[A] = \sum_{j=1}^n \underbrace{P[A|B_j]P[B_j]}_{P[A \cap B_j]}$

**Proof (Bayes theorem)**  $P[B_i|A] = \frac{P[A \cap B_i]}{P[A]} = \frac{P[A|B_i]P[B_i]}{P[A]}$  we finish by the observation.

**Problem (Matrix multiplication testing)** Let  $A, B, C$  be  $n \times n$  matrices. We would like to test whether  $AB = C$ .

One method is to compute  $AB$  – currently in time approximately  $O(n^{2.37})$ . Our goal is to get test in time close to  $O(n^2)$ .

**Algorithm (Freivalds' algorithm)** For parameter  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  run in time  $O(kn^2)$  will answer correctly with probability at least  $1 - 2^{-k}$ .

Generate a random  $0, 1$  vector (generates each entry with probability  $\frac{1}{2}$  independently of others)  $r$  with  $n$  entries. Test whether  $A(Br) - Cr = 0$ .

If  $AB = C$  then  $ABr = Cr \rightarrow ABr - Cr = 0$  In this case algorithm always answers yes.

If  $AB \neq C$ , aim is that we can answer no with probability  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Let  $D = AB - C$ , then  $D$  has a non-zero entry  $d_{i,j}$ . Let  $Dr = v$ , then  $v_i = \sum_{k=1}^n d_{i,k}r_k = d_{i,j}r_j + y$ . Then  $P[v_i = 0] = P[v_i = 0|y = 0]P[y = 0] + P[v_i = 0|y \neq 0]P[y \neq 0]$

$$\begin{aligned} P[v_i = 0] &= P[v_i = 0|y = 0]P[y = 0] + P[v_i = 0|y \neq 0]P[y \neq 0] \\ &= \frac{1}{2}P[y = 0] + P[v_i = 0|y \neq 0]P[y \neq 0] \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2}P[y = 0] + \frac{1}{2}P[y \neq 0] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

... and check if  $P[y = 0] = 0$  or  $P[y \neq 0] = 0$ .

**Problem (small triangles in a square)** Consider a set  $T \subseteq [0, 1]^2$  (finite). We set  $S(T)$  be the smallest area of a triangle determined by points of  $T$ .

Question: If  $|T| = n$  how big can  $S(T)$  be? We will see: There is  $T$  with  $S(T) \geq \frac{1}{100n^2}$  (reachable  $\Omega\left(\frac{\log n}{n^2}\right)$ ).

**Proof** Preliminary computations: Consider three random points  $P, Q, R$  uniformly chosen, independently. Let  $\lambda(PQR)$  denote the area of  $PQR$  triangle First aim: bound  $P[\lambda(PQR) \leq \epsilon]$ .

$$W := \text{dist}(P, Q), \Delta > 0 \text{ (real parameter)}, i \in \mathbb{N}$$

$$P[\underbrace{W \in [(i-1)\Delta, i\Delta]}_{B_i}] \leq \pi(i^2\Delta^2 - (i-1)^2\Delta^2) = \pi(2i-1)\Delta^2$$

$$P[\lambda(PQR) \leq \varepsilon] = \sum_{i=1}^{\lfloor \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\Delta} \rfloor + 1} P[\lambda(PQR) \leq \varepsilon | B_i] P[B_i]$$

$$P[\lambda(PQR) \leq \varepsilon | B_i] \leq \frac{\sqrt{2} \cdot 4\varepsilon}{(1-i)\Delta}$$

$$P[\lambda(PQR) \leq \varepsilon] = P[\lambda(PQR) \leq \varepsilon | B_1] P[B_1] + \sum_{i=2}^{\lfloor \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\Delta} \rfloor + 1} P[\lambda(PQR) \leq \varepsilon | B_i] P[B_i] \leq$$

$$\leq 1\pi\Delta^2 + \sum_{i=2}^{\lfloor \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\Delta} \rfloor + 1} \frac{4\varepsilon}{(i-1)\Delta} \sqrt{2}\pi(2i-1)\Delta^2 =$$

$$= \pi\Delta^2 + \sum_{i=2}^{\lfloor \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\Delta} \rfloor + 1} 4\sqrt{2}\pi\varepsilon \frac{2i-1}{i-1} \Delta$$

Take  $\Delta \rightarrow 0$  The aim is:

$$P[\lambda \leq \varepsilon] \leq 4\sqrt{2}\pi\varepsilon 2\sqrt{2} = 16\pi\varepsilon$$

(requires one more limit pass, we shall skip) Easier one is:

$$P[\lambda \leq \varepsilon] \leq 4\sqrt{2}\pi\varepsilon 3\sqrt{2}$$

By ineq.  $2 + \frac{1}{i-2} \leq 3$

Consider  $2n$  random points in  $[0, 1]^2$  (chosen uniformly, independently). Let  $X$  be a number of triangles with area at most  $\frac{1}{100n^2}$ .

$$E[X] \leq \binom{2n}{3} 16\pi \frac{1}{100n^2} \leq \frac{8n^3}{6} \cdot \frac{16\pi}{100n^2} < \frac{600n^3}{600n^2} < n$$

Thus there is  $S$  with at most  $n$  triangles with area at most  $\frac{1}{100n^2}$ . Let us remove one point from each such triangle.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> moment method

**Definition (Variance)** Let  $X$  be a random variable. Then the *variance* of  $X$  is defined as:  $\text{var}[X] = E[(X - E[X])^2] = E[X^2] - (E[X])^2$

**Definition (Standard deviation)**  $\sigma = \sqrt{\text{var}[X]}$  Equivalently:  $E[|X - E[X]|]$  (but this is much harder to work with).

**Definition (Covariance)** Let  $X, Y$  be random variables, then *covariance* of  $X$  and  $Y$  is defined as  $\text{Cov}[X, Y] = E[(X - E[X])(Y - E[Y])] = E[XY] - E[X]E[Y]$

**Remark** If  $X, Y$  are independent then  $\text{Cov}[X, Y] = 0$ .

**Lemma** Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  be random variables. Then

$$\text{Var} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \right] = \sum_{i=1}^n \text{Var}[X_i] + \sum_{i \neq j} \text{Cov}[X_i, X_j]$$

**Proof**

$$\text{Var} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \right] = E \left[ \left( \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \right) \left( \sum_{j=1}^n X_j \right) \right] - \left( \sum_{i=1}^n E[X_i] \right) \left( \sum_{j=1}^n E[X_j] \right) =$$

$$= E \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2 \right] + E \left[ \sum_{i \neq j} X_i X_j \right] - \sum_{i=1}^n (E[X_i])^2 - \sum_{i \neq j} E[X_i] E[X_j] = \sum_{i=1}^n \text{Var}[X_i] + \sum_{i \neq j} \text{Cov}[X_i, X_j]$$

**Lemma (Chebyshev inequality)** Let  $X$  be a random variable with finite variance and  $t > 0$ . Then  $P[|X - E[X]| \geq t] \leq \frac{\text{Var}[X]}{t^2}$ .

**Proof** Let us define random variable  $Y = (X - E[X])^2$ . Then

$$P[|X - E[X]| \geq t] = P[Y \geq t^2] \stackrel{\text{Markov}}{\leq} \frac{E[Y]}{t^2} = \frac{\text{Var}[X]}{t^2}$$

**Problem** Consider random graph  $G(n, p)$ , estimate probability that  $G(n, p)$  contains a triangle.

Expectation: if  $p$  is very small than the probability is almost 0, if  $p$  is very large than the probability is almost 1.

Let  $X$  be the number of triangles in  $G(n, p)$ , then  $E[X] = \binom{n}{3} p^3$ . If  $p$  is function of  $n$  and in  $o(\frac{1}{n})$ , then  $E[X] \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$ . It holds:  $P[G(n, p) \text{ contains } \triangle] \stackrel{\text{Markov}}{\leq} E[X]$  thus  $P[G(n, p) \text{ contains } \triangle] \rightarrow 0$ .

We would like to know whether if  $p = \omega(\frac{1}{n})$  then  $P[G(n, p) \text{ contains } \triangle] \rightarrow 1$ . We know that  $E[X] \rightarrow \infty$ .

**Definition (Monotone property)** A graph property  $A$  is *monotone*, if for every two graphs  $G, H$  with  $V(G) = V(H)$ ,  $E(H) \subseteq E(G)$ , we get if  $H$  has  $A$ , then  $G$  has  $A$ .

**Definition (Threshold function)** A function  $r : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a *threshold function* for property  $A$  if for every function  $p : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow [0, 1]$  we get:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P[G(n, p(n)) \text{ has } A] = \begin{cases} 0 & p(n) = o(r(n)) \\ 1 & \omega(r(n)) \Leftrightarrow r(n) = o(p(n)) \end{cases}$$

**Problem (cont.)**

**Theorem** The function  $\frac{1}{n}$  is a threshold function for the property “ $G$  contains a triangle”.

**Lemma** Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  be non-negative random variables such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\text{Var}[X_n]}{(E[X_n])^2} = 0$ , then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P[X_n > 0] = 1$ .

**Proof** It holds that  $P[|X - E[X]| \geq E[X_n]] \leq \frac{\text{Var}[X_n]}{(E[X_n])^2}$  and  $P[X_n > 0] = 1 - P[X_n = 0] \geq 1 - \frac{\text{Var}[X_n]}{(E[X_n])^2}$ . Then it follows  $P[X_n > 0] = 1 - 0 = 1$ .

**Proof of the theorem** Case  $p(n) = o(\frac{1}{n})$  we already concluded. Now let us consider  $p(n) = \omega(\frac{1}{n})$ .

Let  $T$  = number of triangles in  $G(n, p(n)) = G(n, p)$  and let  $T_i$  be indicators of individual triangles (thus  $T = \sum T_i$ ). Now we have  $E[T] = \binom{n}{3} p^3$

$$\text{Var}[T] = \text{Var} \left[ \sum_i T_i \right] = \sum_i \text{Var}[T_i] + \sum_{i \neq j} \text{Cov}[T_i, T_j]$$

$$\text{Var}[T_i] \leq E[T_i^2] = E[T_i] = p^3$$

$$\text{Cov}[T_i, T_j] \begin{cases} \leq E[T_i T_j] = p^5 & T_i, T_j \text{ share an edge} \\ 0 & T_i, T_j \text{ edge disjoint} \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{\text{Var}[T]}{(E[T])^2} \leq \frac{\binom{n}{3} p^3 + \binom{n}{2} (n-2)(n-3) p^5}{(\binom{n}{3} p^3)^2} = O \left( \frac{1}{n^3 p^3} + \frac{1}{n^2 p} \right) \xrightarrow{p = \omega(\frac{1}{n})} 0$$

Concluded by lemma.