Double Turán Problem

Ray Tsai

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Overview

- Turán Problem
- 2 Double Turán Problem
- 3 Induced Double Turán Problem
- Proof of Theorem B
- Proof of Theorem D
- **6** Concluding Remarks



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Turán Problem

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Given a graph F, how many edges can an n-vertex graph have while containing no copy of F as a subgraph?

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Turán Number

$$ex(n, F) := max\{e(G) : |V(G)| = n \text{ and } F \not\subseteq G\}$$

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Turán Problem

Turán's Theorem [Tur41]

For $r + 1 \ge 3$,

$$\operatorname{ex}(n,K_{r+1})=e(T_r(n)),$$

with equality for graph G only if $G = T_r(n)$.

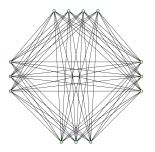
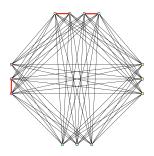


Figure: $T_4(13)$

Erdős-Stone Theorem

Erdős-Stone Theorem [ES46], Simonovits' Theorem [ES66]

Let F be any graph of chromatic number $r+1 \geq 3$. Then $ex(n,F)=(1+o(1))T_r(n)$ as $n\to\infty$.



What is the double Turán problem?

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Let G_1, G_2, \ldots, G_m be graphs on [n] with $E(F) \not\subseteq E(G_i) \cap E(G_j)$ for distinct $i, j \in [m]$.

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$$\phi(m,n,F) \geq \binom{n}{2} + (m-1) \operatorname{ex}(n,F)$$

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Is this tight?

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Double Turán Problem: Main Result

Theorem A

Let $n \geq 1$ and F be a non-bipartite graph. Then as $m \to \infty$

$$\phi(m, n, F) = (1 + o(1))m \cdot ex(n, F).$$

Double Turán Problem: Main Results

The case for $F = K_r$ can be reduced to a finite computation.



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$$\phi(3, n, K_3) = \binom{n}{2} + \lfloor n/2 \rfloor$$

But

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\frac{\phi(4,n,K_3)}{\binom{n}{2}+3\lfloor n/4\rfloor}>1$$

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Main Results

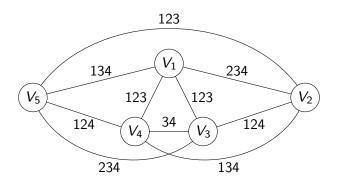


Figure: Construction for four graphs not containing a double- K_3

Double Turán Problem: Main Result

Theorem B

Let F be a graph. If there exists an extremal F-free n-vertex graph with maximum degree at most \sqrt{n}/m^2 , then

$$\phi(m, n, F) = \binom{n}{2} + \binom{m}{2} ex(n, F).$$

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Double Turán problems are closely related to Turán problems for 3-uniform hypergraphs *H* through link graphs.

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Double Turán problems are closely related to Turán problems for 3-uniform hypergraphs H through link graphs.

Link Graph

For $i \in V(H)$, define graph H_i with

$$V(H_i) = V(H) \setminus \{i\}$$
 and $E(H_i) = \{\{j, k\} : \{i, j, k\} \in E(H)\}.$

Example: Octahedron-free 3-uniform hypergraph H



Figure: Octahedron $K_{2,2,2}^{(3)}$

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Example: Octahedron-free 3-uniform hypergraph H



Figure: Octahedron $K_{2,2,2}^{(3)}$

Erdős conjectured that $ex(n, K_{2,2,2}^{(3)}) = \Theta(n^{11/4})$ [Erd64].

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Example: Octahedron-free 3-uniform hypergraph H



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H is octahedron-free $\implies H_1, H_2, \dots, H_n$ are double $K_{2,2}$ -free.

$$\exp(n, K_{2,2,2}^{(3)}) \le \phi(n, n, K_{2,2})$$

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Example: Octahedron-free 3-uniform hypergraph *H*



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We call graphs G_1, G_2, \ldots, G_m induced if each G_i is an induced subgraph of $\bigcup_{i=1}^m G_i$.

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Let graphs G_1, G_2, \ldots, G_m be induced and double F-free.

Induced Double Turán Problem

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What is the value of $\phi^*(m, n, F) = \max \sum_{i=1}^m e(G_i)$?

$$\phi(m,n,F) \geq \phi^*(m,n,F)$$



Induced Double Turán Problem: Conjecture

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What is the value of $\phi^*(m, n, F) = \max \sum_{i=1}^m e(G_i)$?

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Is it tight?

Conjecture

Let F be any non-empty graph and $m, n \ge 1$. Then

$$\phi^*(m, n, F) = \Theta(m \cdot \operatorname{ex}(n, F) + n^2).$$

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Main Results

Theorem C

For $m \ge 3$ and non-bipartite F, if n is large enough, then

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with equality only for identical extremal n-vertex F-free graphs.

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 \implies Conjecture is true for non-bipartite F.

Theorem D

For $m, n, r \geq 3$,

$$\phi^*(m, n, K_r) = m \cdot e(T_{r-1}(n)),$$

with equality for induced K_r -free graphs G_1, G_2, \ldots, G_m only if $G_1 = G_2 = \cdots = G_m = T_{r-1}(n)$.



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Generalized Turán problem,

What is the maximum number $ex(n, F, K_3)$ of triangles in a graph H on [n] with no copy of F as a subgraph?

Studied by Alon and Shikhelman [AS16] and Kostochka, Mubayi and Verstraete [KMV15; MM23; MV16].

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Ex. Octahedron-free graph G.

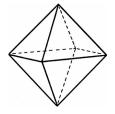


Figure: Octahedron

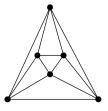


Figure: Octahedron Graph $K_{2,2,2}$

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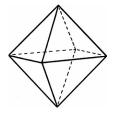


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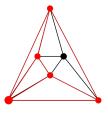


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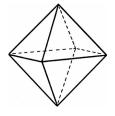


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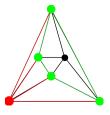


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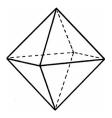


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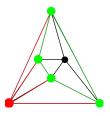


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$$G$$
 is $K_{2,2,2}$ -free $\implies G_1,G_2,\ldots,G_n$ are induced and double $K_{2,2}$ -free.

$$\exp(n, K_{2,2,2}, K_3) \le \phi^*(n, n, K_{2,2})$$

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Conjecture

Let F be any non-empty graph and $m, n \ge 1$. Then

$$\phi^*(m,n,F) = \Theta(m \cdot \operatorname{ex}(n,F) + n^2).$$

Conjecture implies

$$ex(n, K_{2,2,2}, K_3) \le \phi^*(n, n, K_{2,2}) \le O(n^{5/2}),$$

which solves a conjecture of

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Main Results

Theorem E

Let P be a path with two edges. Then $\phi(n, n, P) = \Omega(n^{5/2})$, whereas $\phi^*(n, n, P) = o(n^{5/2})$, as $n \to \infty$. In particular,

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\frac{\phi^*(n,n,P)}{\phi(n,n,P)}=0.$$



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This shows that $\phi(m, n, F)$ and $\phi^*(m, n, F)$ can be very different problems.



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Theorem B

Let F be a graph. If there exists an extremal F-free n-vertex graph with maximum degree at most \sqrt{n}/m^2 , then

$$\phi(m,n,F) = \binom{n}{2} + \binom{m}{2} \exp(n,F).$$

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Let E_S be the set of edges in exactly $\{G_i\}_{i\in S}$.

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Let E_S be the set of edges in exactly $\{G_i\}_{i \in S}$.

$$\implies \sum_{i=1}^m e(G_i) = \sum_{S\subseteq [m]} |S||E_S| \leq \binom{n}{2} + \sum_{S\subseteq [m], |S|\geq 2} (|S|-1)|E_S|.$$

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$$\sum_{\substack{S\subseteq[m]\\|S|\geq 2}}(|S|-1)|E_S|=\sum_{\substack{S\subseteq[m],\\|S|=2}}\sum_{T\supseteq S}\frac{(|T|-1)|E_T|}{{|T|\choose 2}}\leq \sum_{\substack{S\subseteq[m],\\|S|=2}}\sum_{T\supseteq S}|E_T|,$$

as each $T \in [m]$ with $|T| \ge 2$ is counted $\binom{|T|}{2}$ times.



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Observation: If $|S| \ge 2$, the edge set $\bigcup_{T \supset S} E_T$ is *F*-free.



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Observation: If $|S| \ge 2$, the edge set $\bigcup_{T \supseteq S} E_T$ is F-free.

$$\left|\bigcup_{T\supseteq S} E_T\right| = \sum_{T\supseteq S} |E_T| \le \operatorname{ex}(n, F)$$

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$$\implies \sum_{\substack{S\subseteq[m]\\|S|\geq 2}}(|S|-1)|E_S|\leq \sum_{\substack{S\subseteq[m],\\|S|=2}}\sum_{T\supseteq S}|E_T|\leq \binom{m}{2}\mathrm{ex}(n,F)$$

This proves the upper bound.

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We need to show

$$\phi(m, n, F) \ge \binom{n}{2} + \exp(n, F) \binom{m}{2}.$$

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$$\phi(m, n, F) \ge {n \choose 2} + \exp(n, F) {m \choose 2}.$$

For $1 \le i < j \le m$, let H_{ij} be an extremal F-free graph on [n] with maximum degree $\Delta(H_{ij}) \le \sqrt{n}/m^2$



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$$\phi(m, n, F) \ge \binom{n}{2} + \exp(n, F) \binom{m}{2}.$$

For $1 \le i < j \le m$, let H_{ij} be an extremal F-free graph on [n] with maximum degree $\Delta(H_{ij}) \le \sqrt{n}/m^2$

 \implies We can pack these $\binom{m}{2}$ H_{ij} 's into [n] s.t. $E(H_{i_1j_1}) \cap E(H_{i_2j_2}) = \emptyset$

For
$$i \in [m]$$
, put

$$G_i = H_{1i} \cup H_{2i} \cup \cdots \cup H_{im}$$



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$$i \in [m]$$
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Then
$$G_i \cap G_j = H_{ij} \implies F$$
-free

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For $i \in [m]$, put

$$G_i = H_{1i} \cup H_{2i} \cup \cdots \cup H_{im}$$

Then $G_i \cap G_j = H_{ij} \implies F$ -free

Add edges not in any of H_{ij} to G_1 .

$$\sum_{i=1}^{m} e(G_i) = 2\sum_{i=1}^{m} e(H_{ij}) + \left| E(K_n) \setminus \bigsqcup_{i=1}^{m} E(H_{ij}) \right| = \binom{n}{2} + \binom{m}{2} ex(n, F)$$

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Theorem D

Let $m, n, r \geq 3$. Then

$$\phi^*(m, n, K_r) = m \cdot e(T_{r-1}(n)),$$

with equality for induced K_r -free graphs G_1, G_2, \ldots, G_m only if $G_1 = G_2 = \cdots = G_m = T_{r-1}(n)$.



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Theorem D

Let m, n, r > 3. Then

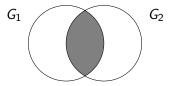
$$\phi^*(m, n, K_r) = m \cdot e(T_{r-1}(n)),$$

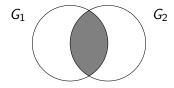
with equality for induced K_r -free graphs G_1, G_2, \ldots, G_m only if $G_1 = G_2 = \cdots = G_m = T_{r-1}(n).$

IDEA: Reduce to m=2.



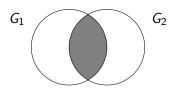
Double Turán Problem





 $G_1 \cap G_2$ (gray area) is double K_r -free.

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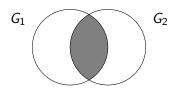
 $G_1 \cap G_2$ (gray area) is double K_r -free.

If G_1 , G_2 intersects in t vertices, then

$$e(G_1) + e(G_2) \le {n-t \choose 2} + (n-t)t + 2T_{r-1}(t)$$



Ray Tsai



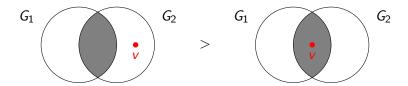
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If G_1 , G_2 intersects in t vertices, then

$$e(G_1) + e(G_2) \le {n-t \choose 2} + (n-t)t + 2T_{r-1}(t)$$

we are done if the unique maximum occurs at t = n.

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Put
$$f(t,r) := \binom{n-t}{2} + (n-t)t + 2T_{r-1}(t)$$

For example, if r = 4,

$$f(t+1,4) - f(t,4) = -t + 1 + 2[\underbrace{T_3(t+1) - T_3(t)}_{t - \lceil \frac{t}{2} \rceil}] = t + 1 - 2 \lceil \frac{t}{2} \rceil > 0$$

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⇒ The larger the intersection, the larger the sum of edges.

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⇒ The larger the intersection, the larger the sum of edges.

 \implies The best we can do is $G_1 = G_2 = T_3(n)$.

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• The conjecture we stated is broadly open for bipartite graphs: we cannot even determine the case for P_2 .

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 $\phi^*(n, n, K_{2,2,2})$ is equivalent (up to constant factors) to the notoriously difficult $\operatorname{ex}(n, K_{2,2,2}, K_3)$ problem. If the conjecture is true, then $\operatorname{ex}(n, K_{2,2,2}, K_3) = \Theta(n^{5/2})$.

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• Although determining $\phi(m, n, K_r)$ is a finite computation, it appears to be intractable in general.

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• Although determining $\phi(m, n, K_r)$ is a finite computation, it appears to be intractable in general.

We only know $\phi(3, n, K_3) = \binom{n}{2} + \lfloor n/2 \rfloor$. The rest is open.



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