



Martin Dyer:
A good friend and a great collaborator.

Coloring (Random) Hypergraphs

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The random hypergraphs $H_{n,m:k}$ (resp. $H_{n,p:k}$) have vertex set $[n]$ and m random edges from $\binom{V}{k}$ (resp. each edge in $\binom{V}{k}$ is included with probability p).

The chromatic number of random hypergraphs

The case of random graphs, $k = 2$, has been well-researched. For $k \geq 3$ we have

Theorem (Dyer, Frieze, Greenhill (2015))

Define $u_{k,q} = q^{k-1} \ln q$ for integers $k \geq 2$ and $q \geq 1$. Suppose that $k \geq 2$, $q \geq 1$, and let c be a positive constant. Then for $H = H_{n,cn;k}$,

- 1 If $c \geq u_{k,q}$ then w.h.p. $\chi(H) > q$.
- 2 If $k \geq 2$ and $\max\{k, q\} \geq 3$ then there exists a constant $c_{k,q} \in (u_{k,q-1}, u_{k,q})$ such that if $c < c_{k,q}$ is a positive constant then w.h.p. $\chi(H) \leq q$.

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In particular this generalises an earlier result of **Achlioptas and Naor [2005]**.

The theorem was later sharpened by **Ayre, Coja-Oghlan and Greenhill [2018]**.

MCMC Algorithms for coloring (random) graphs

Given a graph G and $q \geq \chi(G)$, there is the problem of generating a (near) random proper coloring of G .

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For sparse random graphs, Δ is not a good measure of the number of colors needed.

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After a series of improvements by Mossel and Sly; Efthymiou it has now been shown by Efthymiou, Hayes, Štefankovič and Vigoda that w.h.p. $q \approx 1.7632 \dots d$ is sufficient.

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Note that $\Delta(G_{n,d/n}) \approx \log n / \log \log n$ w.h.p.

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We now discuss improvements on this ergodicity bound..

Ergodicity of Glauber Dynamics

For a (hyper)graph H and a positive integer q we let $\Omega_q(H)$ denote the set of proper q -colorings of H .

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Molloy (2016) proved, for the case $k = 2$,

if $q \lesssim \frac{d}{\log d}$ then $\Gamma_q(G_{n,d/n})$ has no giant component.

Here the asymptotics \lesssim are with respect to growing d .

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Recall that $d/\log d$ is the approximate number of colors required by the Greedy Coloring Algorithm.

Ergodicity of Glauber Dynamics

Let

$$\alpha = \left(\frac{(k-1)d}{\log d - 5(k-1)\log \log d} \right)^{\frac{1}{k-1}}, \quad \beta = 3 \log^{3k} d.$$

Theorem (Anastos and Frieze (2018))

If $k \geq 2$ and $p = \frac{d}{\binom{n-1}{k-1}}$ and $d = O(1)$ is sufficiently large, then

- (i) If $q \geq \alpha + \beta + 1$ then w.h.p. $\Gamma_q(H_{n,p;k})$ is connected.
- (ii) If $q \geq \alpha + 2\beta + 1$ then the diameter of $\Gamma_q(H_{n,p;k})$ is $O(n)$ w.h.p.

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α, β -colorability: Let $V_1, V_2, \dots, V_\alpha$ be a sequence of independent sets of H such that for each $j \geq 1$, V_j is a maximal independent subset of $H - V_{<j}$. We call this a **maximally independent sequence of length α** .

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We say that a hypergraph H is (α, β) -colorable if **there does not exist** a maximally independent sequence of length α such that $H - V_{\leq \alpha}$ contains a β -core.

(A β -core is set of vertices that induces a hypergraph of minimum degree $\geq \beta$.)

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W.h.p. $H_{n,d/n;k}$ is (α, β) -colorable for the given values of α, β .

Proof via a few first moment calculations.

$$\alpha = \left(\frac{(k-1)d}{\log d - 5(k-1) \log \log d} \right)^{\frac{1}{k-1}}, \quad \beta = 3 \log^{3k} d.$$

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Definition

A coloring with color sets $V_1, V_2, \dots, V_{\alpha+\beta}$ is said to be a *good greedy coloring* if (i) $V_1, V_2, \dots, V_\alpha$ is a maximally independent sequence of length α and (ii) $V \setminus \bigcup_{l \leq \alpha} V_l$ has no β -core.

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Theorem

Let H be an (α, β) -colorable hypergraph, $q \geq \alpha + \beta + 1$ and χ be a $[q]$ -coloring of H . Then there exists a good greedy coloring τ of H such that there exists a path in $\Gamma_q(H)$ from χ to τ .

Theorem

Let H be an (α, β) -colorable hypergraph, $q \geq \alpha + \beta + 1$ and let χ, τ be two good greedy colorings. Then there exists a path from χ to τ in $\Gamma_q(H)$.

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Let C_1, \dots, C_q be the color classes of χ . Let $V_1 \supseteq C_1$ be a maximal independent set containing C_1 . Re-color $V_1 \setminus C_1$ with color 1. Then $C_i \leftarrow C_i \setminus V_1, i \geq 2$.

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$W = V \setminus \bigcup_{i=1}^{\alpha} V_i$ has no β -core and we can re-color it from $[\alpha + 1, \alpha + \beta]$ to give us a good greedy coloring. This needs a little explanation.

Ergodicity of Glauber Dynamics

Let $W = V \setminus \bigcup_{1 \leq i \leq \alpha} V_i$. Because H is (α, β) -colorable, we find that W has no β -core. Because W has no β -core there exists a proper coloring τ' of the subgraph of H induced by W that uses only colors in $[\alpha + \beta] \setminus [\alpha]$. Set τ to be the coloring that agrees with χ' on $V \setminus W$ and with τ' on W .

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For $0 \leq i \leq r$ let τ_i agree with τ on $\{v_1, \dots, v_i\}$ and with χ on $\{v_{i+1}, \dots, v_r\}$. On $V \setminus W$ it agrees with both. $\tau_0 = \chi$ and $\tau_r = \tau$.

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To go from i to $i + 1$, follow i sequence and re-color v_{i+1} whenever it threatens to cause an improper coloring. Give v_{i+1} its τ color at the end of the sequence.

Ergodicity of Glauber Dynamics

Lemma

Let H be an (α, β) -colorable hypergraph, $q \geq \alpha + \beta + 1$ and let χ, τ be two good greedy colorings. Then there exists a path from χ to τ in $\Gamma_q(H)$.

There exists a maximal independent sequence $V_1, V_2, \dots, V_\alpha$ of length α such that if $V' = V \setminus \bigcup_{1 \leq i \leq \alpha} V_i$ then (i) for $i \in [a]$, τ assigns the color i to $v \in V_i$ and (ii) τ assigns only colors in $[\alpha + \beta] \setminus [\alpha]$ to vertices in V' .

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Let c be a color not assigned by χ . Starting from χ we recolor all vertices that are colored 1 by color c to create $\bar{\chi}$. Then we continue from $\bar{\chi}$ by recoloring all the vertices in V_1 by color 1 and we let χ' be the resulting coloring. Clearly there is a path P_1 from χ to χ' in Γ .

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The $(0, \beta)$ case involves re-coloring a hypergraph without a β -core and this has been dealt with.

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Theorem

Let $k \geq 3$ and let m, q be sufficiently large. Suppose that $\epsilon \leq \frac{1}{10k!}$. Then there exists a hypergraph H with qm vertices and maximum degree $\Delta \in \left[\frac{\epsilon qm}{2(k-1)!}, \frac{2\epsilon qm}{(k-1)!} \right]$ and a coloring with q colors so that there are no Glauber moves.

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So, for small q we have to be satisfied with generating a (near) random coloring from a giant component of Γ .

Randomly Coloring Arbitrary Simple Hypergraphs

Theorem

Let H be a k -uniform simple hypergraph with maximum degree Δ where $k \geq 3$. Suppose that

$$2\Delta \geq q \geq \max \left\{ C_k \log n, 10k\epsilon_k^{-1} \Delta^{1/(k-1)} \right\}.$$

Suppose that the initial coloring X_0 is chosen randomly from q^V . Then for an arbitrary constant $\delta > 0$ we have

$$d_{TV}(X_t, Y) \leq \delta$$

for $t \geq t_\delta$, where $t_\delta = 2n \log(2n/\delta)$.

Randomly Coloring Arbitrary Simple Hypergraphs

Let X be a coloring of V . For a vertex $v \in V$ and $1 \leq i \leq k - 1$

$$E_{v,i,X} = \{e : v \in e \text{ and } |\{X(w) : w \in e \setminus \{v\}\}| = i\}$$

be the set of edges e containing v in which $e \setminus \{v\}$ uses exactly i distinct colors under X .

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Let $y_{v,i,X} = |E_{v,i,X}|$, so that the number of bad colors for v is given by $|B(v, X)| = y_{v,1,X}$ for all v, X .

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We define the sequence $\epsilon = \epsilon_k, \epsilon_k^2, \dots, \epsilon_k^{k-2}$.

Definition

We say that X is ϵ -bad if $\exists v \in V, 1 \leq i \leq k-2$ such that

$$y_{v,i,X} \geq \mu_i \text{ where } \mu_i = (\epsilon_k q)^i.$$

Otherwise we say that X is ϵ -good.

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To show that a random proper coloring is ϵ -good w.h.p. we use the local lemma in the following way.

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Consider a random coloring $X \in q^V$. For a vertex $v \in V$ we let $\mathcal{A}_v = \mathcal{A}_{\epsilon}(v)$ denote the event $\{v \text{ is not } \epsilon - \text{good}\}$. For an edge $e \in E$ we let \mathcal{B}_e denote the event $\{e \text{ is not properly colored}\}$.

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$$p = \Pr_{\Omega}(\mathcal{B}_e) = \frac{1}{q^{k-1}}.$$

Randomly Coloring Arbitrary Simple Hypergraphs

Let \Pr_{Ω} refer to uniform probability on q^V and let $\Pr_{\mathcal{Q}}$ refer to uniform probability on **proper** colorings.

Consider a random coloring $X \in q^V$. For a vertex $v \in V$ we let $\mathcal{A}_v = \mathcal{A}_\epsilon(v)$ denote the event $\{v \text{ is not } \epsilon\text{-good}\}$. For an edge $e \in E$ we let \mathcal{B}_e denote the event $\{e \text{ is not properly colored}\}$.

$$p = \Pr_{\Omega}(\mathcal{B}_e) = \frac{1}{q^{k-1}}.$$

If $x_e = 2/q^{k-1}$ then

$$p \leq x_e \prod_{f \in E, f \cap e \neq \emptyset} (1 - x_f).$$

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It follows from **Haeupler, Saha and Srinivasan (2011)** that

$$\Pr_{\mathcal{Q}}(\mathcal{A}_v) \leq \Pr_{\Omega}(\mathcal{A}_v) \prod_{f \in \mathcal{N}_v} (1 - x_f)^{-1},$$

where $\mathcal{N}_v = \{f : f \cap e \neq \emptyset \text{ and } f \cap e \text{ for some } e \ni v\}$.

The proof of **HSS** is a straightforward adaptation of the usual Local Lemma proof.

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The proof of **HSS** is a straightforward adaptation of the usual Local Lemma proof.

For our given q , $\Pr_\Omega(\mathcal{A}_v)$ is small and then so is $\Pr_Q(\mathcal{A}_v)$.

Open Questions

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- 2 Remove the $\Omega(\log n)$ requirement for coloring arbitrary simple hypergraphs.

Guo, Liao, Lu and Zhang (2018) deals with deterministically, approximately, counting colorings. The requirements are

$$k \geq 28, q \geq 315\Delta^{14/(k-14)}.$$

THANK YOU